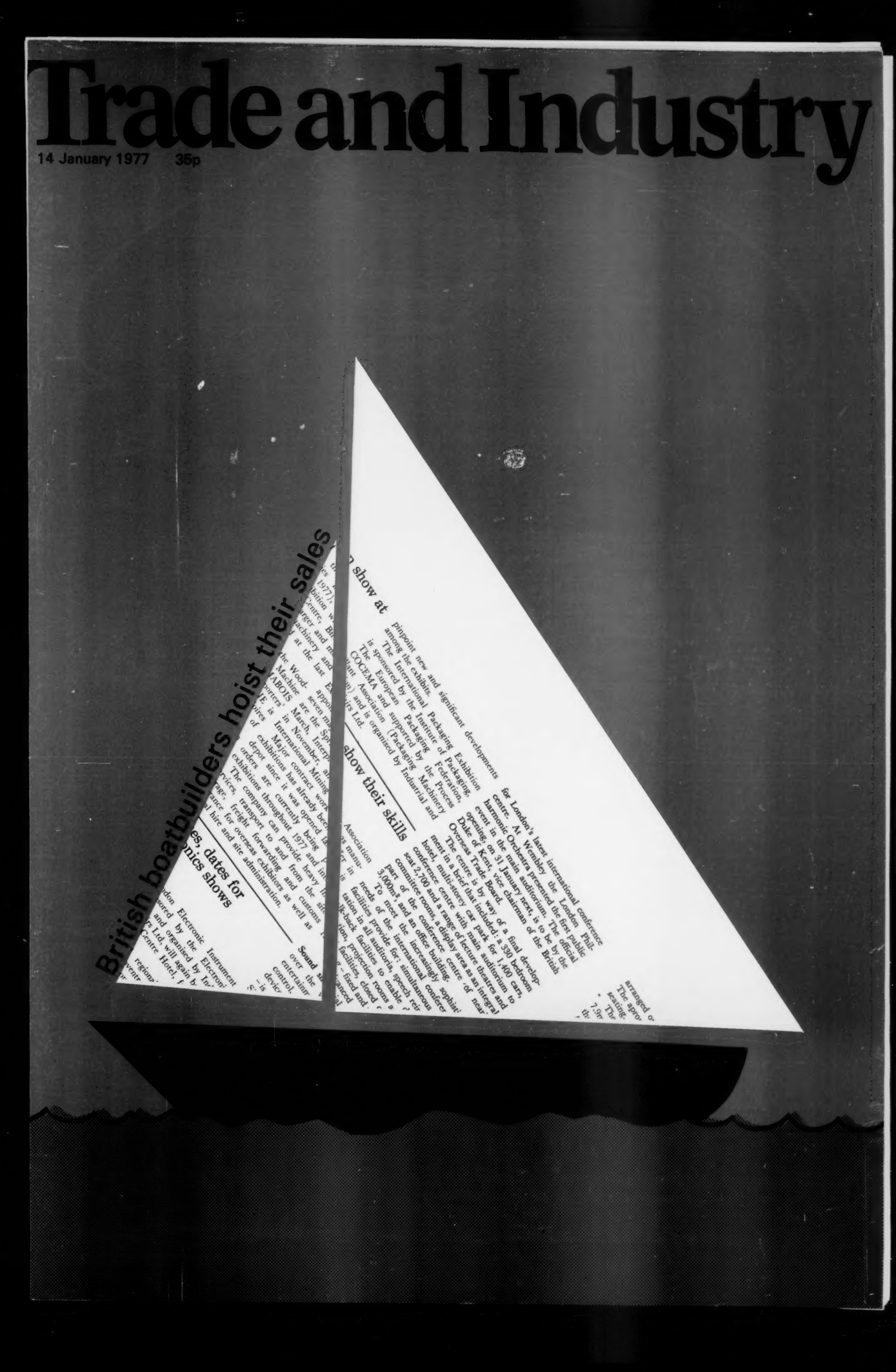
Trade and Industry

14 January 1977 35p


British boatbuilders hoist their sales
show at
pinpoint new and significant developments
among the exhibits.
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and its organised by Industrial and
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device
for London's latest international conference
centre. At Wembley the London Phil-
harmonic Orchestra presented the first public
event in the main auditorium. The official
opening, on 31 January next, is to be by the
Duke of Kent, vice chairman of the British
Overseas Trade Board.
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ment in a brief that included a 330 bedroom
hotel, multistorey car park for 1,400 cars,
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seat 2,700 and a range of lecture theatres and
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THURS	GF012	1000		1930	2225		
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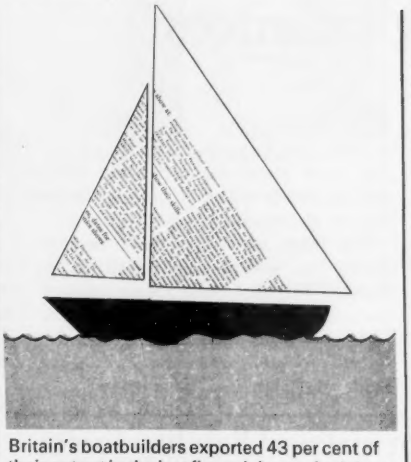
Trade and Industry

14 January 1977

News from the Departments of Industry·Trade·Prices & Consumer Protection



Britain's boatbuilders exported 43 per cent of their output in the last financial year. And they expect to hoist their sales as a result of a big increase in overseas buyers at this year's Boat Show at Earls Court, reported in our Home Exhibitions section on page 95.

Trade and Industry

Incorporating the Board of Trade Journal

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Home news

Agreement on facility for sterling balances

Denis Healey Chancellor of the Exchequer, in a statement in the House of Commons on Tuesday afternoon – 11 January – announced a broad agreement between Central Bank Governors in Basle on setting up a facility for the official sterling balances.

The amount involved was $3 billion, said Mr Healey.

'I am sure the House will agree that the establishment of this new facility will make a powerful contribution to the stability of the international monetary system as a whole and reduce the vulnerability of the British economy to external factors beyond its control', he said.

A statement announcing the agreement was issued earlier by the Bank for International Settlements in Basle.

Mr Healey said that the purpose of the agreement was not only to achieve greater international monetary stability and to ensure that sterling and the exchange markets ceased to be affected by pressures associated with any rundown of the official sterling holdings; but also to enable the British government to achieve an orderly reduction in the role of sterling as a reserve currency.

'The agreement will in no way reduce the existing freedom of non-resident sterling holders to manage their holdings as they wish,' he said. 'The government will, however, be offering official holders the option to convert any part of their holdings in sterling into negotiable medium-term foreign currency bonds to be issued by HMG on market-related terms.

'The new facility, which will be available as soon as all the technical details have been worked out, is for a total amount of $3 billion. It will be operated by the BIS, with the support of central bankers in other Group of Ten countries and Switzerland. Over a two-year period the UK will be able to draw on the facility in respect of any net reductions in the official sterling holdings from December levels, other than reductions arising from conversion to the foreign currency bonds. There is also provision for an extension of the draw-down period for a third year, if all the participants agree. Repayment will be over a period of four years from the end of the draw-down period.

'The facility covers only official sterling balances because it is these that have been the unstable element in recent years. But the UK would not wish large new inflows into private holdings to be a means of financing the UK balance of payments deficit on current account.'

Mr Healey added that the agreement had been possible because 'there has been general approval of our economic and financial policies as set out in my letter of 15 December to the managing director of the International Monetary Fund.' He said that the new facility for the official balances assumes that these policies would be continued. The managing director of the IMF had been associated with these discussions and had been asked to assist in implementing the agreement.

The chancellor concluded that in due course he would make available to the House further information about the technical aspects of the agreement. The terms of the foreign currency bonds to be offered to sterling holders would also be made available at a later stage.

New sterling equivalents for airlines' liability limits

An increase by just over 9 per cent in the sterling limits of air carriers' liability for death or injury to their passengers or loss or damage to baggage and cargo, will come into effect on 21 January 1977.

This is the effect of an order published on 11 January.

The new sterling equivalents will be:

	1976 order	1977 order
Passenger liability		
most international carriage	£10,700	£11,700
non-international carriage	£37,450 per passenger	£40 950
Baggage and cargo liability		
registered baggage and cargo	£10.70 per kilo	£11.70 per kilo
baggage in charge of passenger	£214.00 per passenger	£234.00 per passenger

Because the limit applicable is that in effect at the date of judgement rather than at the date of any accident, the new limits will also apply in cases not settled before 21 January. But British airlines, are required to contract for a limit of liability for death or personal injury to passengers of not less than £25,000 in their international carriage. Many foreign airlines have also contracted for a higher limit, equivalent to approximately $US 58,000.

In cases involving such carriers, the higher limit for which they have contracted, rather than the new limit, would apply.

The order, the Carriage by Air (Sterling Equivalents) Order 1977, SI 1977 no. 1 is made under the Carriage by Air Act 1961. It gives effect in the UK to the Warsaw Convention, as amended at the Hague, for international carriage. Under the act as air carrier's liability for death or personal injury to passengers, and loss or damage to baggage or cargo is in most cases limited by reference to sums fixed in gold francs. The sterling equivalents of these sums are fixed by an order made by the Secretary of State for Trade. Copies of the new order are available from HMSO, price 10p net each.

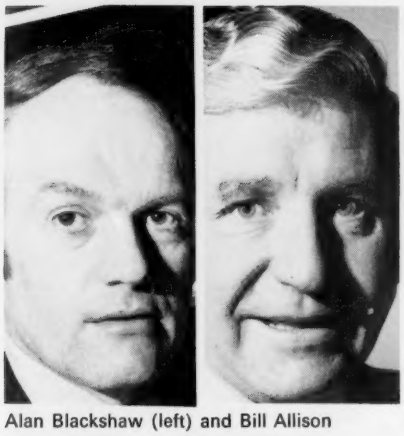
The sterling equivalents have been calculated by reference to the Special Drawing Right (SDR) value of a gold franc converted into sterling at an average SDR/sterling exchange rate taken over a recent period.

Top level changes in Offshore Supplies Office

Senior management changes have been made in the Offshore Supplies Office of the Department of Energy.

Mr J. P. Gibson, the director general, who joined OSO from industry when it was first set up in 1973 will shortly reach the end of his limited period appointed in the department. Pending conclusion of his contract, Mr Gibson has been asked to undertake certain advisory tasks for the department. This will mainly involve oil related engineering issues, but will include finalising certain other issues for OSO. He is being succeeded as director general by Alan Blackshaw, an under-secretary in the Department of Energy, who has been deputy director general of OSO in Glasgow since 1974.

Cedric Hunt, director of engineering since August 1975, is retiring and being replaced by one of his deputies, Bill



Alan Blackshaw (left) and Bill Allison

Allison, who joined the engineering branch of OSO in Glasgow in 1974.

A new director (industrial commercial) is to be appointed from outside the civil service to assist in the top management of OSO.

Hoover expansion at Merthyr Tydfil

John Morris, Secretary of State for Wales, and Alan Williams, Minister of State for Industry, announced on 10 January that, following the offer of substantial government assistance under section 7 of the Industry Act 1972, Hoover Ltd, have reaffirmed that the proposed expansion at Merthyr Tydfil will go ahead as planned. The factory is the centre of the company's home laundry manufacture.

It is now hoped that the first phase of construction will begin in the first quarter of this year. The programme had been delayed because of the economic situation both in the UK and overseas.

The factory at Merthyr opened in 1948 with just over 300 employees and production of the first washing-machines started on St David's Day that year. Since then the plant has steadily expanded and today employs over 4,400 people.

When it becomes operational in two years the new extension being built by the Welsh Development Agency will provide significant and very welcome additional employment in Merthyr Tydfil. Approximately 30 per cent of production is exported and it is expected that this percentage will grow when the new facility comes on stream.

Commenting Mr Morris said: 'I am delighted that this major international company has at the present difficult time the foresight and confidence to confirm its decision to expand at Merthyr Tydfil. Selective financial assistance by the government and the regional incentive package as a whole is not without significance, but the really important feature is the welcome increase in job opportunities which will take place in the next two or three years. No one can be wholly certain of future events but the expansion at Merthyr with an eye to the European market promises welcome relief to the Heads of the Valleys and to the economy generally.'

Mr Williams said: 'I am very pleased that, with substantial selective assistance from my department under the Industry Act 1972, Hoover Ltd have now seen their way clear to proceed with their planned expansion at Merthyr Tydfil. This should lead to a much needed increase in employment in that area in due course.'

Sir Peter Carey, permanent secretary, Department of Industry (second left) speaks to Miss Anne Morrall in the hand enamelling department at the Wedgwood factory, Barlaston. Sir Peter and Sir Douglas Wass, permanent secretary at the Treasury (second right), toured the factory on 7 January. On the left is Sir Arthur Bryan, Wedgwood chairman, and on the right Christopher Johnson, production director.

Nationalised industries form overseas sales group

The Nationalised Industries Overseas Group has been formed to promote collaboration between the British nationalised industries themselves and also between them and their customers and suppliers of plant, equipment and consultancy services.

The group's object is to increase the UK's overseas earnings with particular reference to direct exports, overseas consultancy and project management, turnkey projects, and the scope for standardisation of plant orders placed with UK manufacturers, to help their exports.

Full members of the group are British Airways, British Gas Corporation, British Rail, British Steel Corporation, the Electricity Council, the National Coal Board and the Post Office Corporation. The group is chaired by Sir Derek Ezra, chairman of the National Coal Board.

Public sector corporations operate primarily in the UK and their main contribution to overseas earnings is indirect – though direct exports exceed £1,000 million a year. British Airways earns about £600 million a year in foreign currency and British Steel Corporation is among Britain's leading exporters.

Nine other public sector corporations have joined as associate members and will participate in the exchange of information on overseas projects and in studies of projects. They are British Airports Authority, British Transport Docks Board, British Waterways Board, Independent Broadcasting Authority, London Transport, National Bus Company, National Freight Corporation, National Water Council and United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority.

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Official appointments

Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, has made the following appointments.

Furniture Development Council Sir Roger Falk has been reappointed as an independent member and chairman of the council for the period from 1 January 1977 until 31 December 1981.

Post Office Board Kenneth Young has been reappointed as member for personnel and industrial relations for a further period. Maurice Elderfield, who gave up his appointment as member for finance and corporate planning at the end of December, will remain a part-time member of the Post Office Board for the time being.

National Computing Centre Professor J. H. H. Merriman has been appointed chairman from 1 April 1977. Professor Merriman succeeds retiring chairman, Sir Robert Cockburn, who was first appointed in 1970.

English Industrial Estates Corporation Mr J. S. Heaton has been reappointed a member with effect from 1 April 1977, for three years.

Assistance to textile machinery and printing machinery industries: appointments to advisory committee. The advisory committee on the government's machine tool industry scheme will now also advise on assistance to the textile machinery and printing machinery industries. Lord Brown of Machrihanish, Minister of State at the former Board of Trade from 1965 to 1970, is chairman of the committee.

Mr P. White, managing director, Carrington Viyella Home Furnishings Ltd and Mr R. Boyd, chairman, British Printing Industries Federation Technical Committee and managing director, Richard Clay (Chaucer Press) Ltd have been appointed to represent textile and printing user interests.

The other members of the advisory committee are: Harold Burton, National Economic Development Office; Tom Burton, a former vice chairman of Cincinnati Milacron Ltd; Mr G. R. Lloyd, national organiser, AUEW, and member of Machine Tools EDC; Mr J. W. H. Morgan, assistant managing director, GEC Ltd; Mr J. G. Salkeld, Binder Hamlyn Singleton Fabian, chartered accountants; Mr J. I. Westwood, production director, G. Clancey Ltd.

Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, has made the following appointment.

British Airways Board Peter Parker has been reappointed as a part-time member until 31 December 1979.

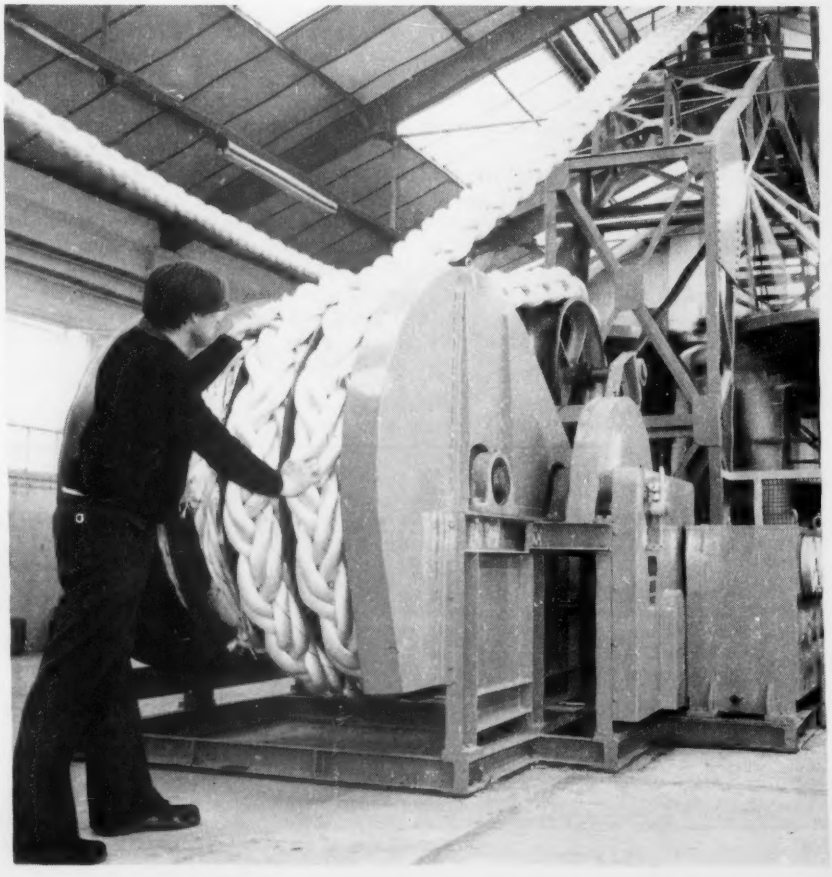
Roy Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, has made the following appointments.

Yorkshire Electricity Consultative Council Mr D. Webster has been reappointed as chairman until 17 January 1980.

Hearing Aid Council. The following have been reappointed as members from 29 December 1976 for a period of three years: Mrs F. Bloom, (reappointment), Miss J. Wilmot, (reappointment), Mr A. A. Campbell, Mr R. Epps.

Captain R. H. Arnott, Master of the *QE2* with his recently installed Decca 16 in anti-collision radar. A 12 in AC slave display was also added to the existing 16 in True Motion set and Decca Navigator. These installations mark the virtual completion of Cunard Steam-Ship Company's two programmes of fitting Decca AC and TM radars to a total of 32 ships.

This 50-m length of 160mm diameter nylon rope with a guaranteed strength of 410 tonnes is being manufactured by Hawkins and Tipson Ropemakers Ltd, Erith. The eight-strand Multiplait rope is being made for the offshore mooring of oil tankers of more than 300,000 tonnes deadweight. Synthetic fibre ropes produced at the factory include an eight-strand 192mm diameter rope with a strength approaching 600 tonnes – manufactured for offshore work in west and north Africa and the West Indies.



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The British Steel Corporation has recently taken delivery of a 60-ton diesel-electric railway crane, specially designed and manufactured by Thomas Smith and Sons (Rodley) Ltd, to meet the requirements of the BSC Strip Mills Division at Shotton, Clywd. A notable feature of the design are six hydraulic jacking stabilisers. Operating on standard 4 ft 8½ in gauge track, the Smith crane will be used for handling steel ingots between the Shotton works stock yards and the rolling mills. It will also find applications in track laying, derailment rescues and other general duties.

Nine government factories at Rotherham

Work will start soon on the construction of nine advance factory units for the Department of Industry on the Hellaby Industrial Estate, Rotherham, South Yorkshire. Six of these form a block of terrace units totalling about 1,350m² (15,000 sq ft) and the other factories are of 900m² (10,000 sq ft), 1,350m² (15,000 sq ft) and 2,250m² (25,000 sq ft) respectively.

A contract worth about £784,000, which includes site development works, has been awarded by the English Industrial Estates Corporation to H. Camm and Co Ltd, of Sheffield. Architects are Hadfield, Cawkwell, Davidson and Partners of Sheffield and the quantity surveyors are Turner and Townsend of Leeds.

The premises should be ready for occupation during November 1977. Inquiries regarding purchase or lease should be made to: Regional Director, Department of Industry, Yorkshire and Humberside Region, Priestley House, Park Row, Leeds tel. Leeds (0532) 443171.

Prevention of Fraud (Investments) Act 1958

The following changes have taken place in Parts 1, 4 and 5 of the 1976 edition of 'Particulars of Dealers in Securities and of Unit Trusts' published in May.

PART 1 HOLDERS OF PRINCIPALS' LICENCES

Name	Nationality or country of incorporation	Address
ADDITIONS		
Meares & Philips		Room 112/113, Warnford Court, Throgmorton Street, London EC2
Lindsay David Burgess	Australian	
John Murchison Eldershaw	Australian	
Brian Cameron France	Australian	
James Noel Goldman	Australian	
Timothy Royse Lysaght	Australian	
Peter Devenish Meares	Australian	
Geoffrey Duncan Nash	Australian	
Peter Sydney Maitland Philips	Australian	
Irvine Christopher Meyrick Salter	Australian	
John Herbert Ferrier Watson	Australian	
Towry Law and Co (Scotland) Ltd	Scotland	42 Frederick Street, Edinburgh EH2 1EX
Yamatane Securities Co Ltd	England	1 Crown Court, Cheapside, London EC2V 6DA
DELETION		
Atlantic International Securities Ltd	Great Britain	65-66 Queen Street, London EC4R 1EH
CHANGE OF NAME		
Energy Finance and General Trust	Great Britain	61 Cheapside, London EC2V 6AX
TO		
Energy Finance and General Trust Ltd	Great Britain	61 Cheapside, London EC2V 6AX
CHANGES OF ADDRESS		
Arbuthnot Securities Ltd	Great Britain	25 Charlotte Square, Edinburgh EH2 4EZ
Chester Gate Securities Ltd	Great Britain	Torrington House, Forty Lane, Wembley, Middlesex
Devwest Ltd	Great Britain	Manfield House, 376 Strand, London WC2B 0LR
Energy Finance and General Trust Ltd	Great Britain	Dauntsey House, Frederick's Place, Old Jewry, London EC2R 8HN
Fruin Securities Ltd	Great Britain	9 Castleton Drive, Newton Mearns, Glasgow G77 5JU
GT Management Ltd	Great Britain	Park House, 16 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 7DD
Merrill Lynch Pierce Fenner & Smith (Brokers and Dealers) Ltd	Great Britain	Merrill Lynch House, 3 Newgate Street, London EC1A 7DA
Merrill Lynch Pierce Fenner & Smith Ltd	Great Britain	Merrill Lynch House, 3 Newgate Street, London EC1A 7DA
Ravendale Securities Ltd	Great Britain	23-24 Great James Street, London WC1
Royal Securities Corporation (Canada) Ltd	Great Britain	Merrill Lynch House, 3 Newgate Street, London EC1A 7DA
Slater Walker Holdings Ltd	Great Britain	8 Old Change Court, London EC4M 8DA

PART 4 EXEMPTED DEALERS including TRUSTEE SAVINGS BANKS

Name	Registered office, principal place of business or principal place of business in Great Britain
ADDITION	
UBAF Ltd	Commercial Union Building, St Helen's, 1 Undershaft, London EC3P 3HT
CHANGES OF ADDRESS	
Barclays Bank Trust Company Ltd	Juxon House, 94 St Paul's Churchyard, London EC4M 8EH
British Empire Trust Company Ltd	51 Bishopsgate, London EC2P 2AA
Real Property and Finance Corporation Ltd	35-38 Portman Square, London W1H 0AQ
Société Generale (France) Bank Ltd	Pinners Hall Austin Friars, PO Box 61, London EC2P 2DN
Slater Walker Ltd	8 Old Change Court, London EC4M 8DA

PART 5 AUTHORISED UNIT TRUST SCHEMES

Group and/or name and address of management company	Name of scheme	Name and address of trustee
ADDITIONS		
Target Trust Managers Ltd 7-9 Breams Building London EC4A 1EU	Target Gilt Fund	Midland Bank Trust Co Ltd 27-32 Poultry London EC2P 2BX
CHANGES		
DELETE		
The British Life Office Ltd 7 West George Street Glasgow C2	British Life Capital Fund	Midland Bank Trust Co Ltd 27-32 Poultry London EC2P 2BX
AND REPLACE BY		
Reliance Unit Trust Managers Ltd Reliance House Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4 8BL	British Life Capital Fund	Midland Bank Trust Co Ltd 27-32 Poultry London EC2P 2BX

The following changes have taken place in the entry for 'Slater Walker Trust Management Ltd' in the 'Management Company' column.

DELETE
Slater Walker Trust Management Ltd
30 St Paul's Churchyard
London EC4M 8DA

AND REPLACE BY
Britannia Trust Management Ltd
3 London Wall Buildings
London Wall
London EC2M 5QL

The following changes have taken place in the entry for 'Save and Prosper Securities Ltd'
In the 'Trustee' column against 'Save and Prosper Capital Units' and 'Save and Prosper European Growth Fund'.

DELETE
Barclays Bank Trust Co Ltd
54 Lombard Street
London EC3P 3AH

AND REPLACE BY
The Governor and Company of the
Bank of Scotland
PO Box 5
Edinburgh EH1 1YZ

The following changes have taken place in the entry for 'Arbuthnot Securities Ltd'
In the 'Scheme' column.

DELETE
Jascot International Growth Fund

AND REPLACE BY
Arbuthnot North American and
International Fund

DELETE
Jascot North Sea and General Fund

AND REPLACE BY
Arbuthnot Commodity Share Fund

AMALGAMATIONS
Slater Walker City of London Trust and Slater Walker Financial Trust have amalgamated with Slater Walker Banking Insurance and Financial Shares Trust
Slater Walker Capital Growth Unit Trust, Slater Walker Century Trust, Slater Walker Provident Investors Trust and Slater Walker Security First Trust have amalgamated with Slater Walker Growth Trust.

TERMINATIONS
Slater Walker City of London Trust and Slater Walker Financial Trust will terminate pursuant to their amalgamation with Slater Walker Banking Insurance and Financial Shares Trust.
Slater Walker Capital Growth Unit Trust, Slater Walker Century Trust, Slater Walker Provident Investors Trust and Slater Walker Security First Trust will terminate pursuant to the amalgamation with Slater Walker Growth Trust.

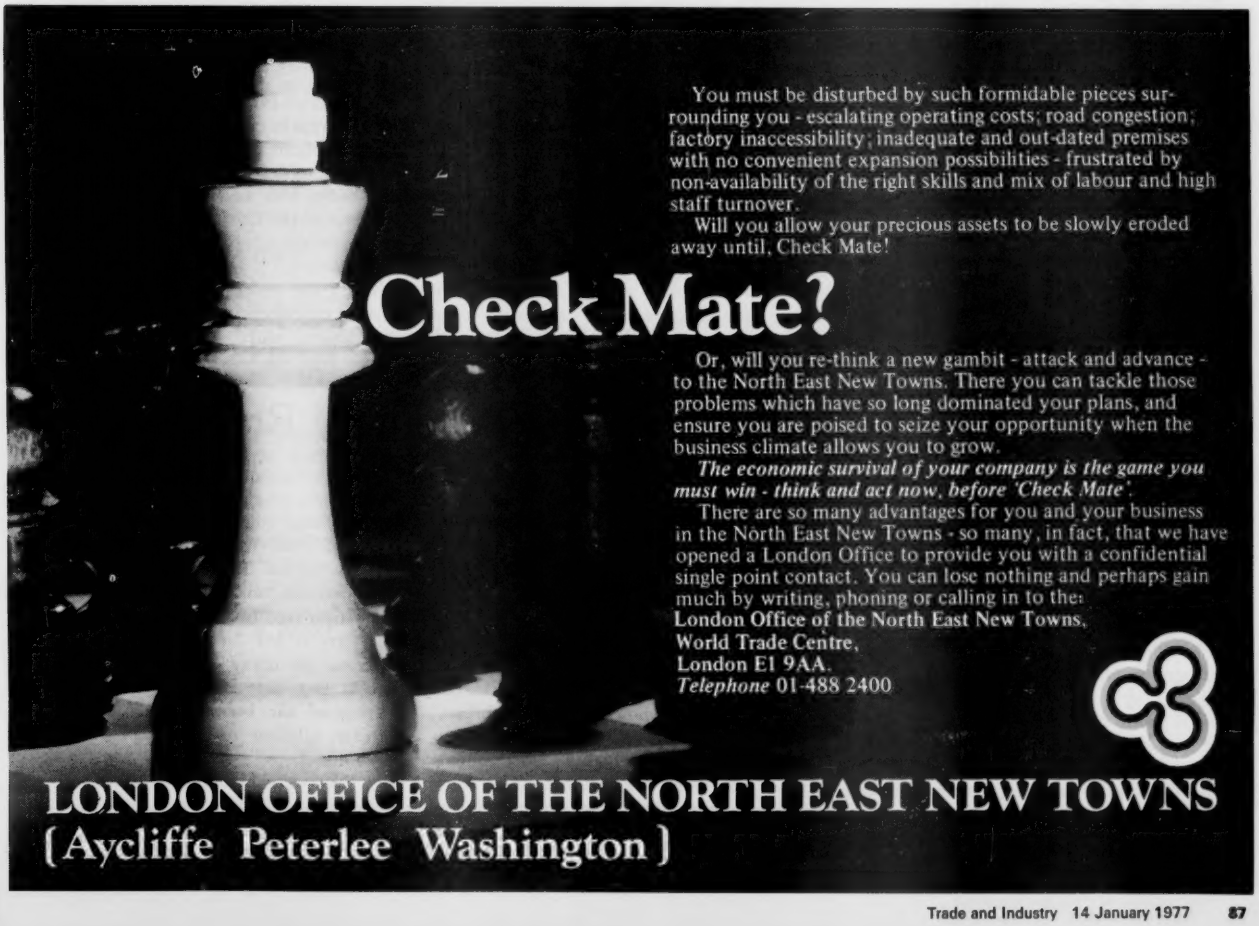
Scottish Council to campaign for import substitution

Over 100 Scottish companies are participating in a project designed by the Scottish Council (Development and Industry) to increase the volume of business done by engineering component and service companies in Scotland.

Research by the council has shown that of the £1,500 million of orders placed annually by major Scottish buyers only £500 million goes to Scottish-based suppliers. Of the remainder a significant proportion is imported from overseas. The council is convinced that Scottish companies could obtain a much greater share of this £1,000 million market and has developed the project as part of its current programme which gives top priority to generating growth in existing Scottish companies.

The first stage in the project will be the compilation by the council of a register of the production capacity, plant availability and specialist expertise or services available from all participating companies. This will be published in March and circulated initially to the major buyers in Scotland who account for an estimated 90 per cent of this £1,500 million market.

The council will also make the register


You must be disturbed by such formidable pieces surrounding you - escalating operating costs; road congestion; factory inaccessibility; inadequate and out-dated premises with no convenient expansion possibilities - frustrated by non-availability of the right skills and mix of labour and high staff turnover.
Will you allow your precious assets to be slowly eroded away until, Check Mate!
Check Mate?
Or, will you re-think a new gambit - attack and advance - to the North East New Towns. There you can tackle those problems which have so long dominated your plans, and ensure you are poised to seize your opportunity when the business climate allows you to grow.
The economic survival of your company is the game you must win - think and act now, before 'Check Mate'.
There are so many advantages for you and your business in the North East New Towns - so many, in fact, that we have opened a London Office to provide you with a confidential single point contact. You can lose nothing and perhaps gain much by writing, phoning or calling in to the:
London Office of the North East New Towns,
World Trade Centre,
London E1 9AA.
Telephone 01-488 2400
LONDON OFFICE OF THE NORTH EAST NEW TOWNS
[Aycliffe Peterlee Washington]

available to key companies in the south, and to the purchasing sections of government departments and the nationalised industries.

The register will be a key element in a sustained effort by the council over the next year generally to increase the volume of business done by Scottish companies. The council is planning to use the register in a series of 'events' which will include components weeks, special exhibitions and the processing of the subcontract engineering inquiries which are currently being sought out by council staff.

Clearance of merger proposals

Roy Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection has decided, on the information at present before him not to refer the following proposed mergers to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission under the provisions of the Fair Trading Act 1973:

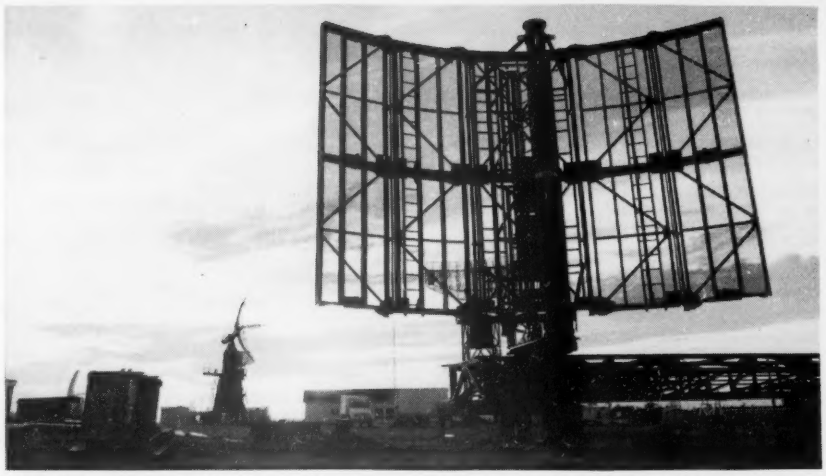
Lonhro Ltd/London City and Westcliff Properties Ltd
Standard Chartered Bank Ltd/Wallace Brothers and Co (Holdings) Ltd
Hoogovens Ijmuiden B.V./Baxter, Fell and Co Ltd
Trafalgar House Investments Ltd/The Direct Spanish Telegraph Co Ltd
Booker McConnell Ltd/Kinlock (Provision Merchants) Ltd.
Diamond Shamrock Corporation and the Zerolit business of Portals Water Treatment Ltd

Licensing under Consumer Credit Act – more time for second stage applicants

Traders and firms concerned in consumer credit or hire businesses will be given a further two months to apply for a licence under the Consumer Credit Act, the Office of Fair Trading announced on 6 January. They will now be invited to apply before 30 June 1977 and a valid application will in any event have to be lodged with the OFT by 1 October 1977.

The second stage of licensing affects everyone in business who lends money, offers credit or gives customers time to pay for goods or services. Shopkeepers, banks, finance houses, check traders, mail order firms and motor dealers are among those affected. People or firms who hire out, lease or rent goods such as television sets, cars, office or factory equipment and vending machines will also need to apply for a licence.

The OFT will place national advertising in the spring giving details of those businesses who should apply for a licence. Free advisory booklets will be available for potential applicants.



This aerial – part of a mobile air surveillance system – is the first to be designed with the height-finding element built into the array and rotating with it. The system, the AR-3D, is able to gather range, elevation and azimuth information and does not require a separate secondary antenna. It has been developed by Plessey Radar, Weybridge, Surrey. Substantial orders for the complete mobile surveillance system have already been received from several overseas countries.

Changes to the Price Code

Technical changes to the Price Code came into operation on 10 January, under the Counter-Inflation (Price Code) Order 1976 (Amendment) Order 1976 which was published on 6 January.

The changes are those proposed in the consultative document issued by Roy Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, on 15 December in conjunction with the increases in excise duties announced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. They are:

An increase of 5 percentage points in the deductions from the sales values of alcoholic drink and tobacco products which enterprises are required to make when they calculate gross and net profit margins under the Price Code. The effect of the change is broadly to exclude the new duty increases from sales values in the calculation of percentage margins, and thus to maintain the principle in the Price Code that no profit margins should be obtainable on indirect tax increases;

The exemption of certain port charges in Northern Ireland from the Price Code. These charges are already exempt for ports in Great Britain, as they fall within the separate jurisdiction of the National Ports Council; the order extends the exemption to ports in Northern Ireland, where the Department of Commerce similarly has separate powers to control charges.

Notes

The Counter-Inflation (Price Code) Order 1976 (Amendment) Order 1976 SI 1976 No. 2207 – is obtainable from HMSO bookshops or may be ordered through local booksellers. The order was laid before parliament on 24 December 1976 and lapses after one month unless approved by both Houses of Parliament.

Before the order was made, the secretary of state consulted interested organisations in accordance with the requirements of section 2 of the Counter-Inflation Act 1973.

Bread prices: statement by Roy Hattersley

There was no doubt that were it not for action by the United Road Transport Union, the price of bread in many shops would be lower.

This was stated on 10 January by Roy Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection.

'On 4 January the government relaxed its control on the wholesale price of bread,' Mr Hattersley said. 'Bread prices are no longer kept artificially high by government-imposed discount restrictions. The new policy creates conditions in which competitive forces can keep bread prices to a minimum. The benefits this new freedom might have brought have, in part, been denied the consumer.

'The United Road Transport Union has in some areas insisted that the price of bread should not fall below a minimum price stipulated by them. There is no doubt that were it not for their action, the price of bread in many shops would be lower than it is today. However, despite the reduction of the bread subsidy and the ½p increase allowed on the maximum price, in some shops prices are actually lower than they were before Christmas.

'There is still scope for reduction in many areas. The actual prices charged in specific shops next week or next month must depend on how far the competitive conditions

which I have created are allowed to work. It will depend on the more efficient retailers exercising their right to strike the best bargain they can for their customers. It will depend on the trade unionists in baking and bread delivery coming to realise that their industry will not prosper if prices are kept artificially high.

'The scheme which began last week was sure to attract criticism from the vested interests in the bread industry. Indeed in my initial statement I made that point very clear. But the new policy balanced the interests of bakers, retailers and consumers and opened the way to the eventual removal of detailed control.

'My initial instinct was to remove discount control completely – leaving the competitive forces within the industry to determine different prices in different shops under a maximum retail price. The Bakers' Federation insisted that an immediate end to discount control would result in massive closures and redundancies. In response to their wishes and those of the unions I therefore relaxed, rather than abandoned, the control.

'It is possible to argue a theoretical case in favour of total and immediate abandonment of all control. That is what the Retail Consortium said they wanted. However, if the response of some of their members to the recent difficulties is anything to go by, they would have flinched from the consequences of real competition as soon as the going got rough. It is not possible to argue that the abandonment of all controls would have avoided the immediate problems. The unions would have reacted more strongly against a total relaxation than they are presently doing against a partial one. The threat to the small shop would certainly have been greater. The Bakers' Federation insisted that in a totally competitive system the plant bakers would have cut each others throats.

'The new scheme has now been in operation for six days. The price of bread in many shops is higher today than it should be. In part, desirable reductions are being prevented by union action – taken in the mistaken belief that such a course protects the interests of both their own members and the consumer.

'Whatever else the United Road Transport Union has done, it has demonstrated that if competition is allowed to work some bread prices will fall. There are reports from all over Britain of shops wanting to cut the price of the standard loaf. How we react if that wish is continually frustrated will have to be decided after the new scheme has settled down and initial reactions are replaced by the more thoughtful judgement that the long-term interests of the industry – employees as well as employers – are not served by charging consumers artificially high prices.

'The new scheme may put price pressure on some small shops. But small shops have other competitive advantages. They often benefit from the personal service they provide and from their convenient location. They have an important role to perform in retailing. They can discharge it without prices being kept artificially high.

'The new scheme seeks to provide choice between service and price, convenience and the negotiating advantage of the most efficient retailers. It provides that choice by relaxing government intervention in the industry. In my initial statement I said it would take some time for the scheme to settle down. I have no doubt that when it has done so, it will work to the benefit of both the industry and its consumers.'

Government sales

Ministry of Defence

Catalogues which give details of the lots, conditions of sale, viewing times etc, are available from the auctioneers from two weeks before and up to the day of the sale, price 20p postage and packing 10p extra (postal orders only).

Sales by auction

19 January 1977 – Furniture

Location
RAF Shawbury, Shrewsbury, Salop

Auctioneers
Hall, Wateridge and Owen (Dept L)., Welsh Bridge, Shrewsbury Salop. (tel. 0743-57074)

A small sale of approximately 500 lots of household furniture and effects which will be sold as single items or in small quantities.

25, 26 January 1977 – Miscellaneous Stores

Location
Central Ordnance Depot RAOC, Bicester, Oxon.

Auctioneers
Midland Marts Ltd (Dept L), 4 Market Hill, Bicester, Oxon OX6 7AL. (tel. 08692-2073)

Stores lying at COD Bicester and other depots and comprising clothing and textiles including 10,000 khaki greatcoats, 67,000 pairs footless stockings, battledress, raincoats, blankets, carpets, tentage, haversacks, webbing, groundsheets. Chairs, tables, bureaux, wardrobes and other furniture. 1,200 wristwatches; photographic, electrical and kitchen equipment, fabric tank assemblies, tyres, MT spares, hand tools, engineer equipment, machine tools, forklift trucks, Bedford RL cargo truck and a large collection of other stores.

2 February 1977 – Miscellaneous Stores

Location
Auctioneer's premises

Auctioneers
Woolland Son and Manico (Dept L), Kinterbury House, St Andrew's Cross, Plymouth PL1 2DQ. (tel. 0752-69292)
Stores lying at various depots in the West country including service clothing and textiles, office and household furniture, watches, clocks, binoculars, 1,000 whistles, 4,000 string nets, 45,000 string bags and a large collection of other stores. Two Morris mini cars, Bedford truck and two 5 ton pantechnicons.

G. F. SINGLETON & CO.

Industrial Surveyors and Auctioneers

AUCTION PROGRAMME

19th Jan. — **Newtownards, Northern Ireland**
BUILDERS PLANT AND STOCK – GSA Structures

25th Jan. — **Near Chorley**
SHEET METAL WORKING MACHINERY – John Booth

26th Jan. — **Clitheroe**
ENGINEERING MACHINERY, SHEET METAL and FACTORY EQUIPMENT – TGB Motors

In near future

Near Blackburn
TEXTILE WEAVING MACHINERY – Sewe & Sewe

Denton
ENGINEERING AND SHEET METAL MACHINERY – Dane Electrical

Sandbach
WOODWORKING MACHINERY – Zan Limited

Burnley
GENERAL MERCHANTS, MACHINERY AND STOCK – Woodfield & Turner

Catalogues (when ready) for these and other sales are available from:

G. F. SINGLETON & CO
53 KING STREET, MANCHESTER M2 4LR
Tel. 061-832 8271

ENCIRCLE TI 347 ON PAGE 142 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

No risk of harm at Windscale

None of the contamination and radiation exposure incidents at Windscale reported to the nuclear installations inspectorate are believed to have caused any significant risk of harm to any person.

This was stated by Tony Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, when giving details of the number of incidents at Windscale since the plant came into operation. He was speaking on 10 January in reply to a parliamentary question.

'I am advised that, prior to April 1971,' he said, 'two incidents were reported by the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority to the responsible minister under a direction requiring the reporting of incidents given by the Lord President of the Council dated 31 January 1957 and a further direction on safety requirements by the Minister for Science dated 1 April 1960.

'When British Nuclear Fuels Ltd took over responsibility for the Windscale Works in April 1971, the site became subject to licensing under the Nuclear Installations Act 1965. Under this act reporting requirements are defined in the Nuclear Installations (Dangerous Occurrences) Regulations 1965 and in the conditions attached to the nuclear site licences.

'No reports in respect of Windscale have been made under the regulations. Twenty-five incidents have been reported to the nuclear installations inspectorate under the licence conditions which cover a wider range of incidents of lesser significance than those reportable under either the regulations or the directions referred to above.

'The incidents reported under the licence conditions involved cases of contamination and radiation exposure which exceeded prescribed levels. None of them are believed to have caused any significant risk of harm to any person.

'I have given instructions that in future I shall be immediately informed when incidents, however apparently insignificant, occur on nuclear installations for which I am answerable to the House.'

Patents endorsed 'Licences of Right'

Under section 35 of the Patents Act 1949 the following patents were endorsed 'Licences of Right' on the dates specified.

Number	Grantee	Subject-matter
14 December 1976		
1,332,874	Mefina SA	Improvements in or relating to a sewing machine
1,333,515	Mefina SA	Improvements in or rleating to a presser foot for a sewing machine
1,338,628	Mefina SA	Improvements in or relating to an apparatus and carrying case assembly
1,341,919	Mefina SA	Improvements in or relating to a sewing machine presser foot assembly
1,343,260	Mefina SA	Improvements in or relating to a sewing machine
1,346,703	Mefina SA	Improvements in or relating to a fuse for non-gyratory missiles
1,348,756	Mefina SA	Improvements in or relating to a mechanically operated fuse for gyratory missiles
1,351,102	Mefina SA	Improvements in or relating to a sewing machine
1,346,885	Chinoin; Gyogyszer Es; Vegyeszeti Termekek and Gyara RT	Resolution of racemic O-methylpsychotrine
1,348,460	Chinoin; Gyogyszer Es; Vegyeszeti Termekek and Gyara RT	Proporation of 5/6 -acylbenzimidazolyl alkyl carbamates
1,351,269	Chinoin; Gyogyszer Es; Vegyeszeti Termekek and Gyara RT	Quaternary ammonium compounds
1,421,000	London and Scandinavian Metallurgical Co Ltd	Improvements in or relating to polishing powders
1,437,982	London and Scandinavian Metallurgical Co Ltd	Improvements in or relating to hangers for refractory tiles
1,289,823	United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority	Improvements in or relating to composite metallic materials
1,364,110	International Standard Electric Corporation	Radar data processor
1,375,574	John Vernon Buckland	Improvements in or relating to underwater work
1,438,015	Licentia Patent-Verwaltungs GmbH	Electrodes for fuel cells
21 December 1976		
1,084,216	David Ritchie (Implements) Ltd	Stooker for trailing baler
1,084,217	David Ritchie (Implements) Ltd	Coupling means for attaching an implement to a towing device
1,084,218	David Ritchie (Implements) Ltd	Improvements in or relating to stookers
1,097,588	EMI Ltd	Improvements in or relating to electron gun structures
1,340,077	EMI Ltd	Improvements in or relating to pick-up tubes
1,384,686	EMI Ltd	Improvements relating to radar apparatus
1,147,569	Agfa-Gevaert Aktiengesellschaft	Improved photographic, gelatin-containing layers
1,189,093	Olof Blom	Garment hanger
1,349,699	Carrozzeria Pininfarina SpA	Motor vehicle bodywork with rigid sunshine roof
1,441,355	Margrete Leopoldine Stinnes	Anchors

Any person who claims that the patentee at the time of endorsement of any of the above patents was precluded by a contract in which claimant is interested from granting licences under the patents may apply for cancellation of the endorsement on Patents Form No 45 within two months after the date of endorsement.

E. Armitage
Comptroller

Inquiry to investigate gas incidents

Tony Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, and Sir Denis Rooke, chairman of the British Gas Corporation, met at the Department of Energy on 5 January to discuss the recent series of explosions involving gas.

They decided jointly to set up immediately a three-man inquiry under independent chairmanship to investigate all the circumstances surrounding the incidents and to report to them as soon as possible.

The terms of reference for the inquiry are:

'To examine all the circumstances surrounding the recent incidents at Bristol, Brentford, Beckenham, Bradford and elsewhere and to establish the extent of common factors that may have been present against the background of the statistics relating to recent experience of serious gas explosions.

'To consider any improvements to existing procedures or systems, or any new measures, which might reasonably be implemented and could be expected to lead to a reduction in the severity of such incidents.

'To report jointly thereon to the Secretary of State for Energy and the Chairman of British Gas and on any other related matter which the Chairman of the Inquiry considers to be relevant, or which is specifically referred to them.

'The report will be presented to Parliament and published as soon as possible.'

Mr Benn and Sir Denis have jointly appointed as chairman of the inquiry, Dr Philip J. King, senior lecturer in chemical engineering at the Manchester University Institute of Science and Technology.

NRDC support

The National Research Development Corporation issued a statement on 7 January, welcoming the inquiry being set up by the Secretary of State for Energy into the recent spate of gas explosions. For some years, NRDC has been active in promoting the development and commercial manufacture of gas detecting instruments.

The NRDC say that a relatively inexpensive gas monitoring instrument can provide valuable protection by giving early warning of gas build-up in time for the gas supply to be shut off and people nearby to be evacuated. The instrument can be arranged to shut off the gas automatically and this is particularly desirable where the immediate area is un-manned.

A number of British manufacturers now offer both battery-powered and mains-operated gas monitors, many using technology licensed or financially supported by NRDC, based on original research at the Safety in Mines Research Establishment. Typically, a gas monitor will constantly check for gas and give an alarm when the concentration has reached about one fifth of the 'lower explosive limit.' Such equipment can cost under £100. Further information about suppliers of equipment of this kind can be obtained from: Ken Preece, Scientific Equipment Group, National Research Development Corporation (tel. 01-828 3400).

Industrial development certificates – a guide for industry

This article, which supersedes one published in *Trade and Industry* on 13 February 1975, explains why and when industrial development certificates are required and where and how applications should be submitted. It outlines the criteria used in reaching decisions. The article reflects current legislation and policies. The procedures and criteria described are therefore liable to change from time to time.

Purpose

1 Industrial development certificates (IDCs) are one of a range of measures designed to secure a better economic balance between the different parts of the United Kingdom. These measures are used to encourage the location of industrial projects in the Assisted Areas of Great Britain and in Northern Ireland and, where appropriate, to control the establishment of new industry and the expansion of existing industry in areas liable to pressure on available resources of labour. The Assisted Areas (AAs) are designated as Special Development Areas (SDAs), Development Areas (DAs) and Intermediate Areas (IAs) and are shown in the map on page 93.

How IDCs are used

2 IDCs are needed to support applications for planning permission (including the renewal of time-expired permissions) for industrial development outside the Special Development and Development Areas in the circumstances described below. The issue of an IDC shows that the proposed development is acceptable on distribution of industry grounds. In cases where an IDC is required, the planning application is not valid in its absence. However, the issue of an IDC does not imply that planning permission will be granted. The decision whether to give planning permission rests with the local planning authority. Firms may find it helpful to have preliminary discussions with local planning authorities before submitting their planning applications.

When IDCs are required

3 The IDC legislation applies in Great Britain only. IDCs are not required, however, for industrial developments in any location in the Special Development and Development Areas. In the rest of Great Britain an IDC is required where the industrial floor space to be created by a proposed development, together with any relevant 'related development' exceeds 12,500 sq ft (1,162m^2) in south eastern England and 15,000 sq ft (1,395m^2) elsewhere. The effect of the provisions of section 68 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1971 concerning related development is that, after an IDC has been issued, additional development can take place up to the exemption limit without a further IDC being required. Section 68 is, however, complicated and its application to individual cases needs careful consideration.

4 The industrial developments for which IDCs are required, subject to the general exceptions, are:

4.1 the erection or re-erection of industrial buildings;
4.2 extensions to existing buildings;
4.3 the change of use of existing buildings from non-industrial to industrial purposes;
4.4 the retention of industrial use where the use has been started without appropriate planning permission, and
4.5 the retention of industrial buildings (or continuation of industrial use) without complying with conditions subject to which planning permission was granted if the conditions were included originally in an IDC.

5 The industrial buildings to which the legislation (section 66 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1971) applies are those used for the carrying on of certain processes in the course of a trade or business including processes which at first sight might not be regarded as manufacturing activities. The legislation also applies to buildings used for any scientific research carried on in the course of a trade or business. Buildings used for purposes incidental to, and for the provision of services or facilities ancillary to, the carrying on of processes or research are treated as industrial buildings; these include, for example, storage and office space associated with the main activity. Building includes, for IDC purposes, part of a building.

Where to apply

6 The Department of Industry is responsible for the administration of the IDC legislation. For cases arising in Wales, the Welsh Office acts for the Department of Industry. Applications should be made to the appropriate regional office of the Department of Industry, or to the Industry Department of the Welsh Office, according to the location of the proposed development. Application forms are available from these offices.

How to apply

7 Completed IDC application forms should be sent to the appropriate office together with any supporting information which the applicant wishes to provide. In addition to the very basic information given on the application form, it is helpful if applicants set out clearly

7.1 the labour demand, in terms of numbers and skills, expected to arise from the proposed development;
7.2 the reasons for siting the development in the location proposed rather than in a Development Area, and
7.3 the consequences for output and efficiency of both approval and refusal of the application.

These factors are taken into account by the department in reaching decisions in the light of the investigation and criteria described below.

Informal discussions

8 Informal discussion about the likelihood of a particular project being approved is often helpful as the acceptability of a project may vary from one location to another according to local circumstances. Regional offices and the Welsh Office welcome the opportunity to advise on the possibilities. Whatever form the initial advice takes, the firm remains free to make a formal application for its preferred location. The matter will then be investigated in detail as described below.

9 Where proposals can be considered in the context of the operations of a group of companies, opportunities to discuss the plans of the group as a whole are also welcome. Such discussion provides a helpful framework for consideration of individual applications.

Investigation of applications

10 Where necessary, applications are investigated in detail to ensure that all relevant information is available before the decisions are taken. No firm should be inhibited from applying by the prospect of this scrutiny of its proposals. The investigation normally takes the form of a pre-arranged meeting with the firm, often at its premises. This affords management an opportunity to describe the circumstances and plans of the firm and to explain fully the reasons for considering that the application should be approved. These reasons may include ties to the location (eg through the availability of specialised services, dependence on local sources of supply, or a limited distribution area); problems which would arise from operating from widely separated locations; modernisation of premises, increased efficiency. The official carrying out the investigation will usually draw attention to the substantial financial assistance available in the AAs and Northern Ireland and inquire into management's reasons for not wishing to site the project in a DA or, where appropriate, in an Intermediate Area.

11 All information given to the Government in connection with IDC applications (and during informal discussions) is treated in the

Industrial development certificates – a guide for industry – *continued*

strictest confidence and will not be disclosed. Even the fact that an application has been made will not be disclosed unless permission has been obtained from the applicant.

12 Decisions are given on IDC applications as quickly as possible. Applicants should, however, bear in mind that the investigation and consideration of applications may take several weeks, and even longer in exceptionally difficult cases. It helps to get speedy decisions if applicants supply quickly any additional information requested.

The approach to decisions

13 In issuing an IDC, the Secretary of State is required by legislation to certify 'that the development in question can be carried out consistently with the proper distribution of industry'. He is required, in reaching decisions, to 'have particular regard to the need for providing appropriate employment in development areas'.

14 Each application is necessarily considered on its individual merits in the context of the statutory provisions. The starting point is the circumstances of the applicant firm and the case it has made for carrying out the proposed development at the chosen location. In considering applications the department has regard to the need to promote investment and industrial efficiency. Where a company or group of companies operates from more than one place, the operations may be viewed as a whole. A very high proportion of applications is approved and even in the most difficult cases compromises may sometimes be possible. The general approach is one of understanding and flexibility, not of decisions according to a rigid set of rules.

15 There is a broad distinction between applications according to the location of the project (IA or elsewhere). A distinction is also made between projects for which the identity of the occupant is known at the time of the IDC application, and speculative projects where the occupant is not known at that time.

16 Applications must be intended to meet clearly defined needs of the occupier. Where applications relate to developments intended to be carried out in stages over a long period it is usual for any certificate issued to cover only the stage or stages planned to meet the needs of the first few years. An indication can usually be given of the likely attitude to the later stages if these are subsequently proposed to be carried out as indicated originally.

Criteria for decisions – known occupants

17 In the IAs, IDCs are generally freely available for the projects of firms well established in the IA concerned. Newcomers may, however, have to show that they could not reasonably be expected to go to an SDA or DA, and the department may also wish to discuss in which particular location applicants' needs for labour can best be met.

18 In the non-Assisted Areas, IDC applications are examined principally in the light of the following factors:

18.1 the extent to which the development is considered to be mobile as to location (ie to have a genuine choice of location) and in particular whether the development is capable of being carried out in a Development Area or alternatively in an Intermediate Area;

18.2 the extent to which the development is compatible with the needs and resources of the locality concerned, particularly the current and expected labour situation.

Some broad indications of the department's attitude to different kinds of project are given in the following paragraphs.

19 Projects likely to be considered mobile include major developments by established businesses requiring new sites some distance from existing locations and any completely new manufacturing venture. Projects considered mobile to an Assisted Area may be refused IDCs with a view to securing the carrying out of the development in a Development Area or an Intermediate Area. Applications for mobile projects not considered capable of being carried out in an Assisted Area are decided according to their circumstances.

20 The needs of the active new and expanding towns outside the AAs are given second priority after the AAs in consideration of mobile projects coming forward from the conurbation associated with the new or expanding towns concerned. The designated London Docklands Area is also accorded, wherever possible, the same priority as the new and expanding towns in south eastern England.

21 Applications for localities where labour resources are particularly strained are examined especially carefully and may be refused whether or not the project is considered to be mobile. On the other hand, projects in keeping with the needs of localities which have special employment problems are viewed sympathetically, subject always to consideration of the extent to which the projects are considered mobile.

22 Applications by existing occupants to modernise and improve their premises or to improve efficiency, are considered sympathetically particularly if the projects involve no more than modest increases in labour. Where restricted sites inhibit similar developments because of the difficulty of maintaining production during rebuilding, sympathetic consideration will be given to IDC applications by well established occupants for the rehousing of their business elsewhere in the same locality.

23 Subject to the considerations outlined above, firms can usually depend on a sympathetic response to proposals for modest expansion on sites where they are well established, particularly if the expansion relates to existing ranges of products. Firms which have been granted IDCs for a number of expansion schemes outside the AAs may, however, be encouraged to locate further growth in an AA.

Criteria for decisions – speculative developments

24 In the IAs, IDCs for industrial developments proposed on a speculative basis are usually available for public and private sector projects of reasonable size in relation to the resources and requirements of the locality, subject to certain consultation arrangements about prospective occupants.

25 In the non-Assisted Areas, IDCs may be issued in some circumstances for speculative developments by local authorities or new town development corporations. Local authority developments usually relate to the rehousing of established firms being displaced from existing premises by other public sector developments. Speculative developments (often referred to as standard or advance factories) by new town development corporations and expanding town authorities may be approved during the active growth periods of these towns; the scale and timing of the developments must appear reasonable in relation to the growth of the town and the prospective availability of housing and jobs. The issue of IDCs for local authority (including expanding town) and new town developments is subject to certain conditions and consultation arrangements about prospective occupants. Speculative developments for other purposes are not approved unless they come within the arrangements for the replacement of obsolete factories described below.

Replacement of obsolete factories

26 IDCs in the non-Assisted Areas may be issued for certain speculative developments in urban areas in order to facilitate the improvement of industrial efficiency and working conditions. Informal discussions between the developer, the local authority and the department may be the best way of working out mutually acceptable proposals. To be acceptable, proposals should be:

26.1 in respect of industrial buildings erected before 1918 and considered to be ripe for redevelopment. Proposals involving the demolition of pre-1939 premises will also be considered;

26.2 in respect of buildings empty at the time of the IDC application, but not necessarily empty at the start of any informal discussions;

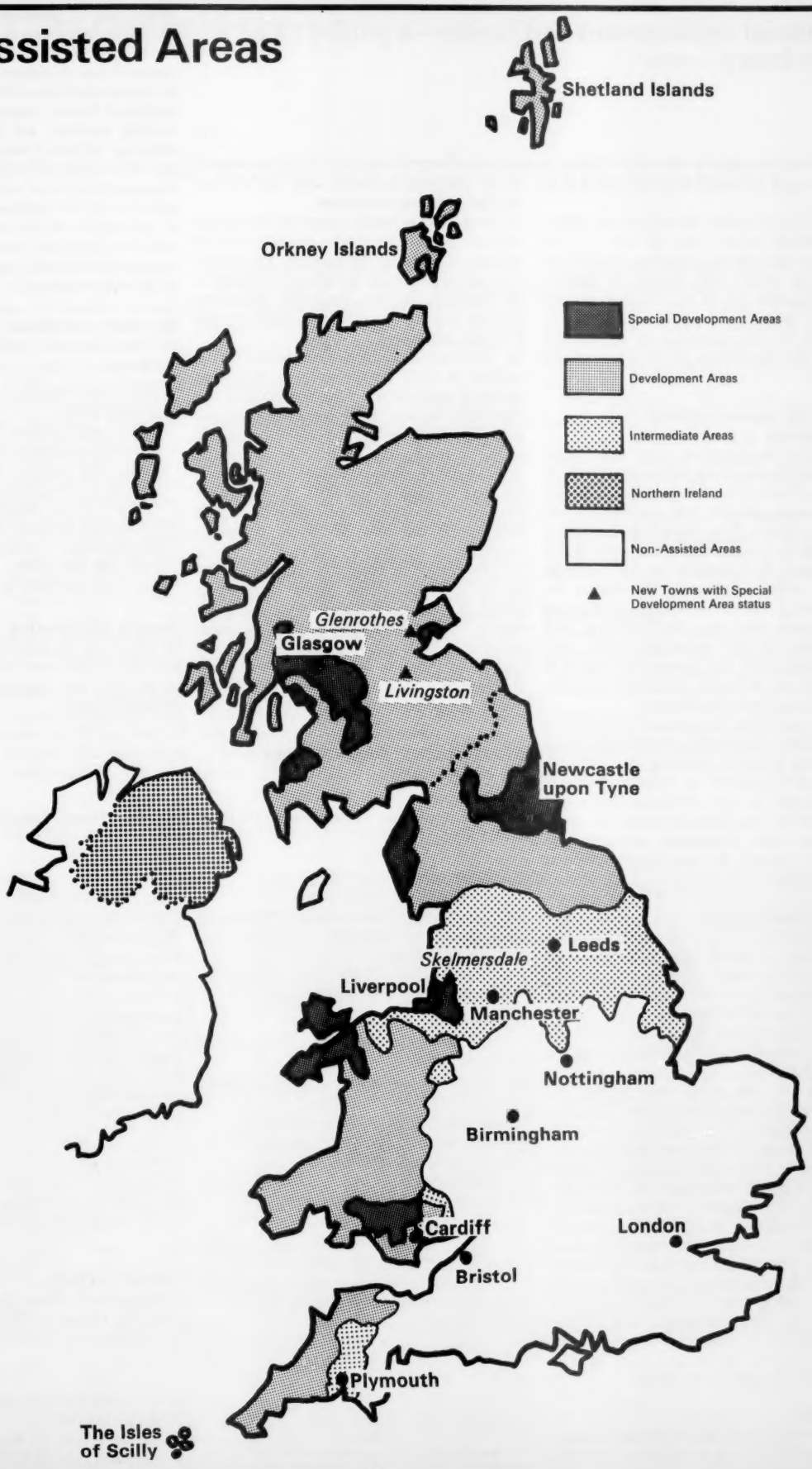
26.3 in accordance with the appropriate structure, local or development plan, where such exists, and

26.4 on a scale in keeping with the needs of the locality.

27 Proposals involving an exchange of land use, eg between housing and industry, are acceptable on an equivalent site area basis in the context of schemes for redevelopment of large areas. Both sites must be included in redevelopment schemes and the sites must be within the area of the same District Council or London Borough.

28 The density of the new buildings to be erected on a site is subject, in most cases, to a maximum for single storey development of 22,000 sq ft per acre. Proposals for more intensive development by way of small units in a multi-storey structure are acceptable where the circumstances warrant it. All proposals should result in the demolition of at

The Assisted Areas



Industrial development certificates – a guide for industry – *continued*

least as much industrial floor space as is to be erected.

29 IDCs issued under the scheme are subject to conditions which limit for the first five years the origin of the occupying firms to the county in which the project is situated (excluding any AA in the county), provide that not more than 40,000 sq ft may be occupied by one company or group, and require the demolition of the relevant old premises.

Industrial estates – related development

30 Related developments may exist where individual developments independently occupied are all part of one scheme of development on an estate planned and provided by the same developer. The exemption limit then applies to the location as a whole and takes in any change to industrial use of buildings erected under a planning permission for warehousing. The circumstances of individual estates, and thus the IDC position and application of the exemption limit, vary considerably. The IDC position in respect of extensions to industrial buildings on such estates is especially complicated.

31 The preceding paragraph gives only a broad outline of the effect of section 68 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1971 on 'related development' in relation to estate developments. In view of the complexity and the variety of circumstances which can arise, developers and prospective occupiers are advised to consult the appropriate office at an early stage.

Refusals and appeals

32 If an IDC is to be refused for a proposed development, a formal letter to that effect is sent to the applicant. This letter is usually accompanied by an informal letter giving reasons for the refusal and, where appropriate, inviting the applicant to consider alternative locations and offering all possible assistance if he wishes to do so.

33 Although there is no statutory right of appeal against the refusal of the IDC, the right of an applicant to ask for a refusal to be reconsidered is fully recognised. This process is usually best begun by means of a meeting with a senior official in the office concerned. A fuller explanation of the reasons for the refusal can then be given and the basis of the appeal explained by the firm. If relevant new arguments or information, or modified proposals, are put forward, it may be found that there are grounds for revising the initial decision. In some instances appeals are referred to the Headquarters of the Department of Industry where a meeting may be held before the appeal is decided.

Approvals

34 Where a proposed development is acceptable, the IDC is issued by the office handling the case. A duplicate is also supplied to be sent to the planning authority with the application for planning permission.

35 Each IDC is issued subject to restrictions and conditions. The restrictions relate to the making of planning applications. The conditions are subsequently included, or deemed to be included, in any planning permission granted and are therefore enforceable by the planning authority.

36 There are normally two restrictions on the validity of IDCs for the purpose of making planning applications. One secures that the IDC may be used by a specified applicant only. The other renders the certificate invalid if the planning application is not made within a stated period, usually 12 months from the date of issue of the IDC. Time-expired certificates can usually be replaced without difficulty if the new certificate is sought promptly.

37 The condition most frequently included in IDCs for buildings whose occupier is known is one specifying by whom and for what purpose the building shall first be used. Other conditions may, for example, limit the amount of space to be used for production purposes in a building for which an IDC is issued. A condition may sometimes limit the future use of premises which are to be vacated, where these are situated in the area of the same local planning authority as the proposed new development; it is the practice to discuss conditions of this kind fully with the applicant before issuing an IDC. (Where existing premises are in a different local planning authority area from the proposed new development, other arrangements for limiting their future use may occasionally be agreed with the applicant). IDCs in respect of speculative development may contain a condition governing the origin of the eventual occupants and other conditions appropriate to the circumstances.

Statutory provisions

38 The principal statutory provisions on IDCs are:

Town and Country Planning Act 1971, sections 66-70.
Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1972, sections 64-68.
Town and Country Planning (Industrial Development Certificates: Exemption) Order 1976 (SI 565/1976).
Town and Country Planning (Industrial Development Certificates) Regulations 1972 (SI 904/1972), 1973 (SI 149/1973) and 1974 (SI 1418/1974).

Further information

39 Copies of this article and further information about IDCs and the financial incentives in the AAs are obtainable from the offices detailed below:

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY

Headquarters

Regional Industrial Development Division, Millbank Tower, London SW1P 4QU (tel. 01-211 6486).

Regional offices

NORTHERN
Stanegate House, 2 Groat Market, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 1YN. Tel. Newcastle upon Tyne (0632) 24722.
for: Cleveland, Cumbria*, Durham, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear.

NORTH WESTERN
Sunley Buildings, Piccadilly Plaza, Manchester M1 4BA. Tel. 061-236 2171.
for: Cheshire, Lancashire, Greater Manchester, Merseyside.

YORKSHIRE AND HUMBERSIDE
Priestley House, Park Row, Leeds LS1 5LF. Tel. Leeds (0532) 443171.
for: Humberside, North Yorkshire, South Yorkshire, West Yorkshire.

WEST MIDLANDS
Ladywood House, Stephenson Street, Birmingham B2 4DT. Tel. 021-632 4111.
for: Hereford and Worcester, Salop, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, West Midlands.

EAST MIDLANDS
Severns House, 20 Middle Pavement, Nottingham NG1 7DW. Tel. Nottingham (0602) 56181.
for: Derbyshire*, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire, Nottinghamshire.

SOUTH WESTERN
The Pithay, Bristol BS1 2PB. Tel. Bristol (0272) 291071.
for: Avon, Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, Gloucestershire, Isles of Scilly, Somerset, Wiltshire.

EASTERN
Charles House, 375 Kensington High Street, London W14 8QH. Tel. 01-603 2070.
for: Bedfordshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Oxfordshire, Norfolk, Suffolk.

LONDON AND SOUTH EASTERN
Charles House, 375 Kensington High Street, London W14 8QH. Tel. 01-603 2060.
for: Greater London, East Sussex, Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Kent, Surrey, West Sussex.

WELSH OFFICE

Government Buildings, Gabalfa, Cardiff CF4 4YL. Tel. Cardiff (0222) 62131.
for: the whole of Wales.

SCOTTISH ECONOMIC PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Alhambra House, 45 Waterloo Street, Glasgow G2 6AT. Tel. 041-248 2855.
for: the whole of Scotland.

*Parts of these counties are administered by the appropriate adjoining regions. Detailed information is available from the regional offices concerned.

Home exhibitions

When you want to sell abroad it's the homework that counts

Early attendance figures for the 23rd London International Boat Show, at Earls Court, reflected the enthusiasm of overseas interest in Britain's boating industry.

More than 2,000 visitors from abroad were reported on the trade and opening day – 6 January. Another 18,000, among them big parties from Europe and the United States, are expected before the show closes – 16 January. Last year the figures were: Day 1, 600; the whole of the show, 11,000.

Overseas business prospects for the industry show the likelihood of similar comparison.

While the Ship and Boat Builders National Federation (SBBNF) spoke of industry trends having 'a gleam of hope', talk around the show of orders for overseas included such terms as 'escalating', 'buoyant' and 'a tremendous upsurge'. Buyers, hoping for the earliest possible deliveries, were reported to be anxious to place orders before the show opened.

Overseas demand for British boating equipment has long been at an increasingly high level. Exports accounted for 43 per cent of turnover in the year to April 1976. In terms of sterling the export total – £81.5 million – was almost double that for the previous year.

Background for the 'boom', according to Guy Dixon, chairman of the British boating industy's export committee, is the continuing programme of joint venture participation.

Exports surge

'Exports have taken a tremendous upsurge,' said Mr Dixon, 'and, in general, it is the companies who have done their homework, back over the past seven or even 10 years, who are the main beneficiaries. They are now geared for exports. To a lesser extent it is those relying on any fall in the value of the pound.'

The importance of planned marketing in the industry's successful export ventures is emphasised too by the SBBNF. This success on the export side is not to be confused with the declining value of sterling, they say.

'There has been a planned operation over a number of years,' said a federation spokesman. 'Markets researched and developed. Agencies established. Products developed to suit international requirements.

'With boats, Britain is in the forefront of design. We are using production techniques well in advance of any other European or American method. And it is not only in the leisure/pleasure boats market. We are making our mark in the light commercial markets, doing very well in the Middle East, in offshore oil and gas activity and with oil pollution control boats.

'The industry is established as a world leader, too, in marine electronics – such things as radar, VHF and echo sounding equipment – marine hardware – masts, winches, fittings, clothing – and engines, especially marine diesels.

'Regard overall for the British product, whether boat or equipment, is one of high esteem. As far as the industry is concerned there is certainly a buoyant spirit about.'

Hard business

In terms of hard business from the international market early examples have included an announcement by Fairways Marine of Hamble, Southampton, of a £500,000 European order. Westerly Marine Construction Ltd, of Waterlooville, Portsmouth, with eight boats on display, reported a £3 million export turnover – 62 per cent of the whole –

The marina setting at the central pool, Earls Court, for the London International Boat Show.

HM Coastguard stand at Earls Court features modern communications equipment used in co-ordinating civil search and rescue operations.

for the year to the end of July last, the company's display including a 24 ft newcomer that has accounted for 120 orders in four months, half of them destined for overseas.

Other companies with a healthy outlook included such names as Camper and Nicholsons Ltd, Gosport, their '31' on show for the second time after a 'most successful first year', Decca Radar Ltd, London, Ian Proctor, Metals Masts Ltd, Southampton, Lucas Marine Ltd, Camberley, Jack Powles International Marine Ltd, Norwich, Electronic Laboratories Ltd, Poole and engine manufacturers such as Petters Ltd, Perkins Engines, Leyland Thorneycroft, Lister Marine and L. Gardner and Sons Ltd. Many introduce new lines.

New products are always a top feature for the show. Examples include new marine diesels from Lister Marine and from Petters. Two new marine transmissions were announced by the Leyland firm Self-Changing Gears Ltd. At least two companies, Dunlop and Beaucroft, have new inflatable craft on show. Guy Dixon, director of Electronic Laboratories Ltd, reported also an increasing trend for radio telephone equipment and said that in three years his company had become the biggest manufacturer in Europe for such equipment in pleasure boats.

'It's an added safety factor. The family feel safer at sea', he said.

The new 2,500 berth Brighton Marina, 'Europe's biggest and most sophisticated', provides the central theme for this year's show. Backing the event are some 450 companies exhibiting nearly 600 boats as well as engines and chandlery.

The Earls Court pool has a display of craft of various sizes and is the centre for regular programme items including fashion displays, Royal Marine landings and comedy diving.

HM Coastguard stand

The work of HM Coastguard is featured in a special stand display which includes films, publications and details of the new yacht and boat safety scheme.

Organisers of the event for the SBBNF are National Boat Shows Ltd and the Daily Express.

Glassware for the lighting scene

Thorn Lighting Ltd, London are showing several new ranges at Brightshow, Olympia, London (30 January to 4 February). The new family of glassware fittings featured above is described by the company as the most comprehensive range on the lighting scene – outlets could be the hotel and catering fields, shops, department stores, offices, showrooms. There will also be an indoor flood, offering flexibility in a variety of lighting situations, and a unique range of Downlighter/Uplighter fittings, with a recessed version for shallow domestic ceiling voids.

Exhibitions in brief

Royal visits to ISF: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother will visit the International Spring Fair, Tuesday 8 February, it is announced by the co-sponsors, Trade Promotion Services Ltd and the British Hardware Promotion Council Ltd. The Duke of Gloucester will also visit the Fair, on Wednesday morning, 9 February.

The International Spring Fair for giftware and hardware is described as Britain's largest trade exhibition of consumer goods. It will take place at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, from 6 to 10 February.

To manage Motorfair: Martin Burgess, formerly with Datsun UK Ltd, has been appointed exhibition manager for 'Motorfair', the new motor exhibition to be held at Earls Court, London from 19 to 30 October.

Mr Burgess has organised motor exhibitions in the USA and has also experience of many UK and European shows. He joined Datsun UK in 1975. Previously he had six years in the motor retail trade and five running an advertising and publicity company.

Motorfair is organised jointly by Beaverbrook Newspapers, Earls Court and Olympia Ltd, and the Motor Agents Association.

International sales campaign: A wide-ranging international sales campaign gets under way this month to promote exhibitor participation at Hotelympia '78, the eighteenth International Hotel and Catering Exhibition, which takes place at Olympia, London, from 25 January to 1 February 1978. Recently appointed sales manager, Roger Moyle, has already visited major food and equipment suppliers in Paris, Frankfurt and Turin and despite record overseas attendance at last year's event is confident that there will be even more senior buyers from overseas in 1978.

Coverage ranges over every sector of the catering industry from the latest in food and drink supply, kitchen equipment, hotel/restaurant fittings, to advanced concepts such as the new 'Solar Motel,' totally self-sufficient accommodation package.

Small Firms Information Centres

Centre	Telephone	Freefone area	Freefone	Telex
Birmingham	021-643 3344	West Midlands	4054	337919
Bristol	294546	South West	9910	449650
Cardiff	396116	Wales	1208	497515
Glasgow	041-248 6014	Scotland	846	779334
Leeds	445151	Yorks/Humberside	5361	557687
London	01-828 2384	London & South East	2079	917920
Luton	29215	Eastern	372	826115
Manchester	061-832 5282	North Western	6005	667952
Newcastle	25353	Northern	529	537429
Nottingham	49791	East Midlands	4062	377313

New products

Pocket TV is 'international first'

Clive Sinclair, founder and managing director of Sinclair Radionics Ltd, with his company's pocket TV set.

British technology this week added TV to the well-informed businessman's pocket accessories.

Sinclair Radionics Ltd, Huntingdon, introduced a portable 4 in (101.6mm) wide, 6 in (152.4mm) long, 1½ in (38.1mm) deep and weighing 26½ ounces (741.2g). It has a 2-in screen.

NEB backing

The company, with the National Enterprise Board a major shareholder – government investment totals £650,000 – claimed the set as 'the world's first pocket television.' It is also the only set able to receive TV transmissions throughout the world, they said. It is now on show in Chicago. It will be available in February. The price is expected to be about £175 plus VAT, or $300 in the USA.

Clive Sinclair, the company founder, described the set this week as 'the perfect source of information for the travelling businessman.'

More than £500,000 and 12 years of research and development have gone into production. A 2-in screen viewed at distance of 1 ft is said to be of equivalent size and brilliance to that of normal domestic portables at 6 ft and to 24 in models at 12 ft.

Simple assembly

The final assembly requires only the connection of four printed circuit boards, insertion and connection of the tube, and housing the whole in a three piece steel case. Most of the circuitry is achieved in five bipolar integrated circuits. A total of 300 transistors are used. Push-button switches permit selection of British, European and USA standards and the power supply is from four re-chargeable cells.

Sinclair Radionics expect most of the sets will be exported, with the USA the biggest market; Japan also 'important.' It could be two years, they say before a competitor creates a similar product.

Control panels cut security false alarms

YTA Ltd, of Bitton, Avon, has developed a range of security system control panels which, the company claims, are virtually impossible to operate incorrectly or mis-set.

Smallest is the Lynx 1, a single circuit general purpose control panel for homes, small offices and shops. The design is based on relay logic with very high transient 'noise' immunity which reduces the false alarms caused by mains 'spikes' or surges; constructed from 18 SWG steel the panel boxes have ample room for easy maintenance with clearly marked terminals eliminating the spaghetti-like wiring of cheaper boxes.

For larger premises the Lynx 3 and 6 are available as either standard or switched circuit models. The advantage of the switched circuit is that any one of the 3 or 6 circuits can be obtained.

The cleaning of Inter-City One Two Five

A 'Britannia' train washer, specially developed to clean British Rail's high-speed 'Inter-City 125', has been installed at St Philip's Marsh servicing depot, Bristol – purpose-built to handle the new train.

The washer was designed, manufactured and installed by Smith Bros and Webb Ltd, Alcester, Warwickshire. The company has been supplying 'Britannia' train washers to British Rail and to other railways throughout the world, for 16 years.

The washer has been evolved around existing well-proven principles with modifications to suit the HST design.

After a diluted acid solution is sprayed on to the train to permeate ingrained dirt the train proceeds to a brush-and-spray unit where roof and side brushes apply a solution of hydrogen peroxide to prevent staining. A further brush-and-spray station applies cold water and a brush-and-rinse unit provides a penetrating rinse action.

Finally, the train passes through a cold water spray arch, with jets positioned to give a progressive flow of water down the body sides. The train's speed through all the sections is about 2 mph (3.2 kph). The whole washing process takes about five minutes. The washer also accepts conventional rolling stock.

Specially-developed 'Britannia' washer keeps British Rail's high-speed train clean.

Cheaper hand-drying with Bowscott

A new concept in hand-drying in industry said to give a 20 per cent cost saving over existing systems is being marketed by Bowater-Scott Corporation Ltd. It makes use of the roll towel – which is taking the place of the more expensive C-fold towel – dispensed from a new cabinet known as Control-o-matic, and which gives the convenience of an individual towel.

The new, lockable cabinet has up-graded the roll paper-towel, automatically measuring-out uniform lengths at the touch of a lever.

Economical hand-drying from Bowscott in the smart new Control-o-matic cabinet.

Bowater-Scott is producing three qualities of towels 'to suit the whole spectrum of industry'. Roll 100 is a single-ply, green multi-purpose towel. This is said to give over 20 per cent cost-saving, and, according to the company, is the lowest-priced system in the UK. Roll 200 is a single-ply better-quality, white towel. Roll 400 is a two-ply, super-quality white towel, which will have use in the electronic, chemical, and similar industries, as well as in laboratories, clinics and hospitals.

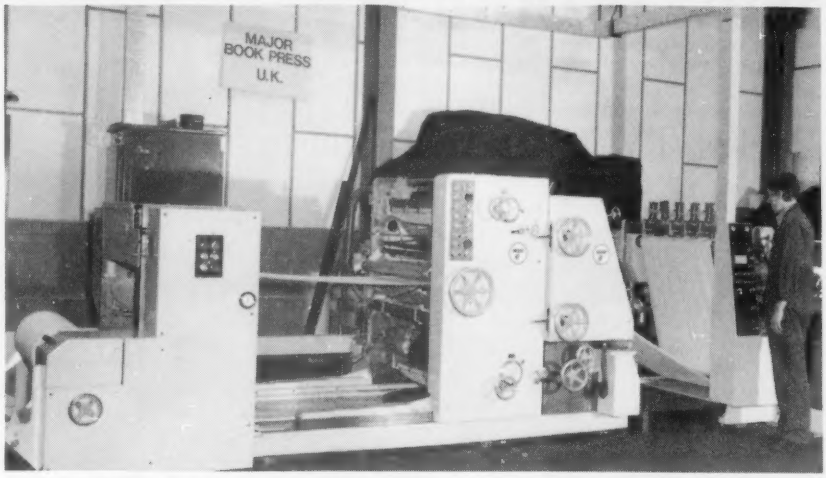
World first claim for linear amplifier

What is claimed to be the world's first third-generation 100 watt solid-state broadband linear amplifier – the Redifon HFA 125 – is now available from Redifon Telecommunications, of Wandsworth, London.

Designed and developed in the company's Crawley laboratories, the new amplifier is said to be extremely versatile, giving continuous operation on both voice and CW, and not using any liquid coolant or fans. It is lightweight, sealed, and achieves full 100 watt CW specified operation on 24 volts over the frequency range 1.5-30 megahertz.

The HFA 125 is particularly suited to military and naval man-portable, mobile, transportable and fixed-station roles, where it is fully interchangeable with its widely-used predecessor the Redifon GA 481 amplifier.

Addition to printing equipment range



Timsons Ltd, Kettering, has introduced this book press to meet a new demand in the printing industry.

Timsons Ltd, Kettering, have added a book press to their 'Major' range of equipment, to meet what the company reports as 'a new demand in the printing industry for a versatile machine mainly for medium or short runs'.

The machine has a speed of between 1,000 and 1,500 feet per minute, a fast run-up time and low paper waste. A range of cylinder sizes is supplied to the needs of the customer. The product range is extended well beyond that of a straightforward book press, and can be used for brochure work, book sections, sheet delivery, zig-zag folding, re-reeling and process printing.

Cylinder units are interchangeable and the press has a wide range of folder sizes and configurations. Rack-back duplex units, included in all machines, give easy operator access by allowing each unit to be moved laterally by a hand-wheel.

The inking system uses a main single plate-inking roller which runs via two, three or four rider rollers before the ink is applied.

Industrial safety from Polyservices

Polyservices Ltd, Bolton, a member of the Associated Plastics Group, has introduced a rigid PVC valve shield to provide positive protection from the effects of small leaks from flanged valves, both from the spindle gland and from the two flange gaskets.

Corrosive or dangerous liquids can accumulate in the reservoir allowing plant engineers to perform repair and maintenance operations when convenient rather than on an emergency basis.

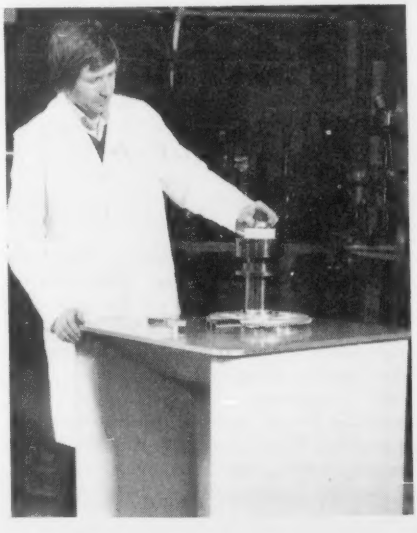
The shield, in lightweight, rigid, chemically-resistant PVC, is split along a horizontal centre line and secured round the valve by PVC clips. The top part is shaped to suit the bonnet of the valve and can have a soft PVC grommet through which the valve spindle passes. The shield body is translucent so that any liquid build-up can be seen.

As the range of shapes and sizes of valve commonly used in industry is so vast, each shield is custom built to individual specification on a two to four week delivery time.

Also available from Polyservices is a range of translucent PVC flange shields. Designed on the same principle as the new valve shields, the standard flange shield sizes are for pipes with diameters ranging from ½ in to 8 in, although shields for larger pipes can be supplied to order.

Multi-purpose chassis

An all steel multi-purpose chassis designed and built by Helbar Precision Engineering Co Ltd, of Eastwood, Essex, with the machine builder particularly in mind.
The chassis is capable of being fitted with rotary or in-line indexing facilities and a knee-hole allows the operator to sit, thus reducing fatigue. It measures 30 in × 30 in × 42 in (762mm × 762mm × 1,067mm). The one shown has an aluminium top, but various other materials are available to suit customers' requirements.



Technology news

UKAEA wins £4m contract for EEC reactor safety project

A contract worth more than £4 million for the construction of an experimental loop in the Essor nuclear reactor at Ispra, Italy, has been signed between the EEC commission's joint research centre and the UK Atomic Energy Authority. The work will be carried out at the Atomic Energy Research Establishment at Harwell.

The loop, known as 'Sara', will be built within the framework of the Essor operation programme, financed by Italy.

The project is part of the research effort in the field of reactor safety, which has the highest priority among EEC programmes. The Sara loop will simulate the conditions of the so-called maximum credible accident in a nuclear reactor – the loss of coolant caused by the sudden rupture of the primary cooling circuit.

The loop will also permit studies of fuel behaviour in both heavy water reactors ('Cirene' and 'Candu' types) and light water reactors (boiling and pressurised water), under conditions which can lead to the rupture of the fuel and therefore to a programmed radioactive contamination of the coolant. These are very advanced experiments which will be possible within Essor because of the unique characteristics of this new loop.

The out-of-pile section of the Sara loop will be installed in an independent bunker capable of containing under any circumstances, the possibly contaminated coolant. A fuel handling system of special design will allow for the carrying out of destructive tests. Several emergency cooling systems will be tested.

It will also be possible to condense large quantities of vapour resulting from the simulated rupture of the cooling loop. The maximum power of the Sara loop, which is to be completed within four years, will be 1,500 kW (thermal).

Department of Energy support for international solar energy programme

The Department of Energy is to provide financial support totalling £37,800 over three years to University College, Cardiff, to develop and test solar heating and cooling systems as part of the International Energy Agency's solar energy programme.

This was stated in the House of Commons by Alex Eadie, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Energy, in reply to a parliamentary question from James Dempsey (Coatbridge and Airdrie) who asked what plans the Secretary of State for Energy had 'for supporting UK participation in the International Energy Agency's solar energy programme'.

Mr Eadie said:

'The University College, Cardiff, has been designated by the government to be a participant in an IEA collaborative programme to develop and test solar heating and cooling systems.

'The UK work will be undertaken by the Solar Energy Unit of the Department of Mechanical Engineering and Energy Studies at the University College and they will develop standard test procedures to determine the performance of a broad class of collectors for use in solar heating and cooling systems.

'Other participants to the implementing agreement will be carrying out similar work in their own countries and the results will form a comprehensive body of data on solar collector test procedures and designs which will be available to all participants.

'The department intends to provide financial support for this work at the University College as part of its programme in the field of solar energy. The funds to be made available total £37,800 over three years.

'The UK hopes to participate in other aspects of this work in the near future.'

Researching into and developing alternative energy sources is a major interest of the International Energy Agency. The work to be carried out at Cardiff is part of a co-operative programme on solar heating and cooling systems drawn up by a working party of the IEA's committee on energy R & D.

Other IEA member nations collaborating in this part of the programme, which formally began on 1 January 1977, are Austria, Denmark, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Spain and the USA: each will have access to the results of the work of the others.

Dr B. J. Brinkworth of the Solar Energy Unit of the Department of Mechanical Engineering and Energy Studies at University College, which is already working in this field, will be in charge of the developing and testing operations at Cardiff.

Tribology course on bearing design

A series of data sheets on the design and selection of bearings has been prepared by the Engineering Sciences Data Unit Ltd. They incorporate computer-devised charts which enable the tedious mathematical analysis normally associated with bearing design to be avoided and are invaluable aids to rational design.

To help engineers to understand and exploit the use of these sheets, the National Centre of Tribology is holding a one-day course at Risley on 10 February 1977 at which the causes of bearing failure will also be discussed.

The lecturers, all acknowledged experts with wide practical experience of the problems of bearing design, will be: Professor J. Halling, Professor of engineering tribology, University of Salford; R. E. Leckenby, senior consultant, National Centre of Tribology; Dr E. J. Robbins, deputy manager, National Centre of Tribology, and Dr R. Wilson, Shell Thornton Research Centre.

This course is a repeat of those held in 1970, 1973 and 1976. The course fee including data sheets and refreshments will be £45 + VAT.

Programme and application forms are available from: The Course Organiser, National Centre of Tribology, UKAEA, Warrington, Cheshire. WA3 6AT. tel Warrington (0925) 31244, ext 3564.

Saving energy in the textile industry

The Shirley Institute is arranging a one-day conference to draw attention to savings that can be made in textile processing.

Under the general title 'Energy savings in textile manufacture and finishing,' speakers from the Department of Energy (Mr C. Ryder), Courtaulds Ltd, (Dr J. Cunningham), NIFES Ltd, (Mr N. E. Charlesworth), and the Shirley Institute, (Mr M. Stuart, Dr J. G. Roberts, Mr G. J. Parish), will discuss energy resources, the conversion and distribution of energy, combined power and heat generation, efficient use of machinery and processes, and opportunities for improvements in the utilisation and recovery of heat energy.

There will also be a series of short contributions from commercial firms offering instrumentation and control equipment.

The conference will take place at the Institute on 10 March 1977, and full details can be obtained from Mr J. K. Jackson, Shirley Institute, Didsbury, Manchester M20 8RX, tel. 061-445 8141; telex 668417 Shirley Mchr.

Fire Research Station studies fire hazards in shopping malls

Fires in covered or enclosed shopping complexes are potentially dangerous because people in the malls could become enveloped in thick smoke and prevented from escaping. Limiting the size of the fire with sprinklers, an essential part of the fire protection for such a building, means that an upper limit can be set for the likely rate of production of smoke. This enables practicable measures for the control of smoke to be designed. Recent work at the Fire Research Station in Borehamwood has been directed towards providing such information.

A fire produces a great deal of hot smoky gases together with the energy (ie heat) required to move these gases briskly within a building. In most cases shops in a mall either have no front at all, or glass windows which experiments at FRS have shown cannot be relied upon to remain intact even if the shop is sprinklered. For large shops it may be possible to design smoke-control systems which can deal completely with the smoke from the largest fire likely to be met with in practice inside the shop. For small shops this is likely to be impracticable because there is a minimum limiting side of compartment for control measures to be effective although some experimental work in this field is currently in progress at FRS. In most cases it has to be accepted that smoke will enter the malls in quantity and in order to maintain good conditions in the malls the travel of smoke along them must be restricted. The smoke leaving the shop is hot enough to form a well-defined layer flowing under the ceiling and this makes smoke control possible by removing this layer of smoke. Three remedial measures are necessary in addition to sprinkler protection:

Ceiling reservoirs must be provided either by ceiling screens or by some suitable design of the building, eg upstands. The smoke must be extracted from the reservoir as fast as it flows into it by natural ventilation or by a mechanical system and provision must be made for air to enter at a low level to replace the smoke extracted.

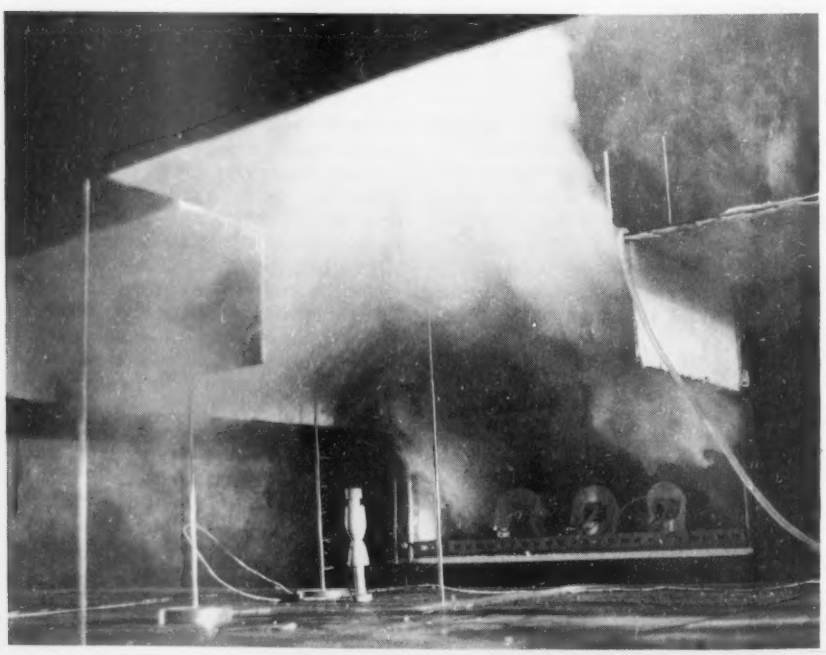
Two-storey complexes present further problems because of the mixing of large quantities of air into the smoky gases entering the mall while these gases are rising in a plume through the upper storey into the ceiling reservoir. Experiments with models have shown that the effective quantity of smoky gases can be increased tenfold in a really bad case. This creates much more difficult conditions on the upper floor. Experiments at FRS have shown that it is important to reduce the perimeter of the smoke plume rising in the upper storey. This can best be done by limiting the horizontal spread of smoke beneath the ceiling of the lower storey, using ceiling screens and by channelling the smoke to a limited region.

Limiting the vertical height through which the smoke can rise is also useful. This means that, no more than two storeys should be vertically linked by large voids. It is also necessary to provide a sufficiently deep reservoir for natural extraction or sufficiently large fans to remove very large quantities of smoky gases, and to make sure that there is a plentiful supply of fresh air on both floors. FRS also recommend ensuring that air entering the upper storey can 'purge' the region beneath the ceiling layer of thin smoke by sweeping it back into the plume. This prevents a gradual loss of visibility

Work is continuing on methods for controlling the smoke flow. A method currently under examination uses vertical ducts and screens to isolate each level in the event of a fire, permitting each level to be treated as a single-storey mall. This might make multi-storey malls a possibility.

Concern expressed in the past on the possibility of sprinkler sprays in the malls pulling down smoke from a thick low level layer which could hinder escape is unfounded. FRS work has shown that provided the smoke layer is moving and is at least 1m deep, then if it is hot enough to set off a sprinkler head it has enough buoyancy to remain as a high level layer which is relatively less hazardous since people can escape underneath it.

A model of a two storey shopping mall in which smoke is being confined to ceiling screens to form a compact plume.



Coral 66 as a standard language

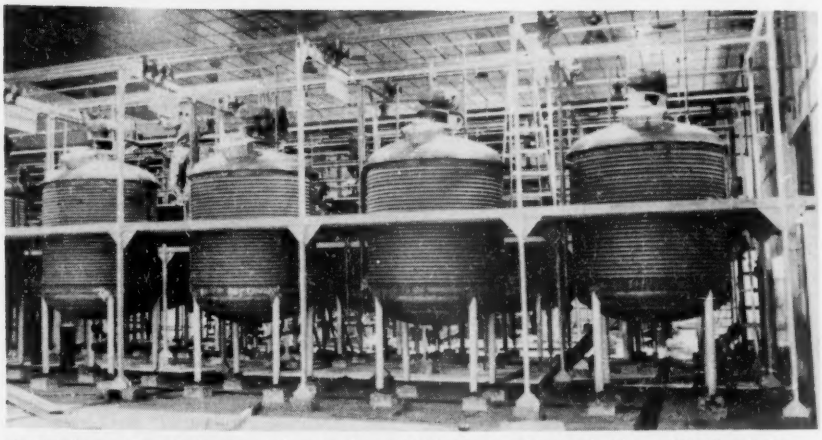
Coral 66, a computer language invented by the Ministry of Defence's Royal Signals and Radar Establishment is now being promoted by the National Computing Centre as a standard language for industrial work. In an attempt to gain international approval for Coral 66, the language was submitted for consideration by the International Standards Organisation's Industrial Real Time Computer Language meeting held in Washington last November by the British Standards Institution. No decision has yet been made although long term assessment has started.

At present there is no standard computer language available for industrial work. If one were adopted, the NCC feels there would be obvious advantages. The staff who had to operate the computers would be more easily trained, while maintenance of the computer, and introducing the inevitable changes, would become a less arduous task. The necessary software could also be produced more quickly.

Promoting Coral 66 involves the problem of influencing suppliers and users simultaneously, although initially NCC are concentrating on the users. Nevertheless it is clear that before the customers commit themselves, the manufacturers must be prepared to provide compilers for Coral.

Meanwhile, within the Ministry of Defence, Coral 66 has become so widely accepted that only rarely will MOD consider a computer that does not have Coral on it.

Increasing control of foot-and-mouth disease



The Wellcome Foundation's new foot-and-mouth disease vaccine production unit in Brazil, the largest in the world, was opened recently. The Wellcome Foundation Ltd has many years experience in developing and producing the vaccine, based on initial work at the Animal Virus Research Institute at Pirbright, sponsored by the Agricultural Research Council, where the deep culture method was first discovered over 10 years ago. This made it possible for vaccines to be produced in the quantities and at the speed necessary for a national control programme. (Cattle need to be injected three times a year with a vaccine effective against three different types of virus.) With the help of the vaccine, Brazil should be able to establish areas from which meat can be exported, as has happened in Kenya and Botswana.

Why a school hall collapsed: new report from the Building Research Establishment

The collapse of the sports hall at Rock Ferry comprehensive school, Birkenhead, was caused by instability of the rafter roof because diagonal bracing of the roof structure was not provided. A progressive transfer of lateral loads from the roof structure to the gable walls occurred due to the unstable condition of the roof, resulting in collapse when the critical gable wall restraint was exceeded. The transfer of load to the gable walls may have been accelerated by the hot dry weather prior to the collapse, but this was a secondary rather than a primary cause of the failure, which would probably have occurred later on in normal weather.

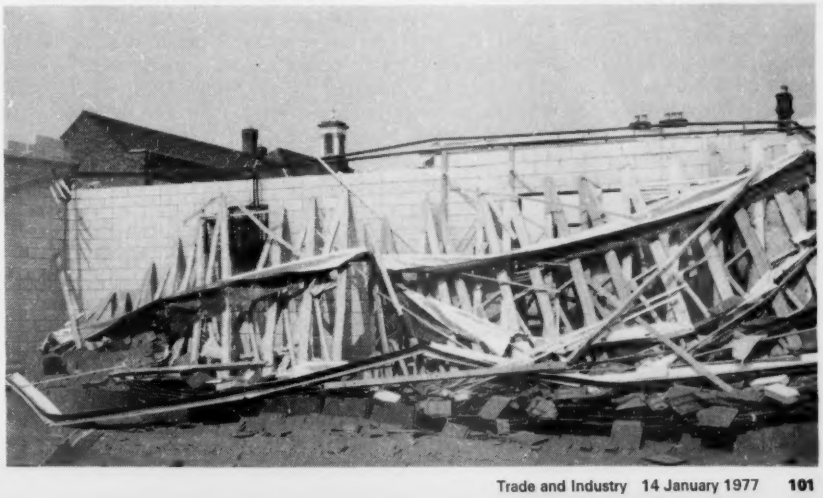
These are the findings of the Building Research Establishment team which investigated the collapse at the request of the Department of the Environment building regulations professional division and the Department of Education and Science.

The report states that there were other inadequacies in the building – the form of the masonry structure, particularly the presence of vertical shrinkage control joints near to the corners, and the slenderness of the walls that resulted in the walls having insufficient resistance against lateral forces.

The sports hall collapsed on Saturday, 3 July at 14.00. The building was unoccupied and there were no eyewitnesses. Two visits to the undisturbed site were made by BRE staff in the week following the collapse. The roof had completely collapsed and come to rest inside the building. The upper third of the north wall had fallen outwards and the west gable above the same level had fallen outwards, demolishing the lean-to shower and changing rooms. As well as a detailed examination at the site, which was completed at the end of July, the BRE team made an appraisal of the design, working from drawings, calculations, specifications and bills of quantities provided by the local authority, the Metropolitan Borough of Wirral.

The investigation and the conclusions drawn from it are reported in a new BRE Current Paper, CP 69/76, 'Report on the collapse of the Sports Hall at Rock Ferry Comprehensive School, Birkenhead', by J. B. Menzies and G. D. Grainger. Copies are available, free of charge, from the Distribution Unit, Building Research Establishment, Garston, Watford WD2 7JR.

Rock Ferry comprehensive school, Birkenhead. View inside the sports hall looking north west.



Fuel economy furnace

Instruments designed and manufactured by Foster Cambridge Ltd, a member of the George Kent Group, are helping to control the performance of a new type of furnace designed to give a 50 per cent fuel saving over conventional heat treatment plants.

The furnace has been developed by Actric Ltd of West Bromwich. It is based on a patented firing system known as 'Recuperseal', in which a typical heat treatment line consists of a 'shaker-hearth' type hardening furnace, with a Recuperseal pre-heat section which uses exhaust gases from the radiant tube gas burners.

At the end of the hardening section, work pieces are oil quenched and conveyed to the first section of the tempering furnace. Here the quench oil is burned off using an over-aerated burner and this section, besides providing an effective seal for the furnace atmosphere, also contributes towards the re-heating of the quenched products. From the end of the tempering section the finished products are conveyed to work bins fully hardened and tempered, and treated with blue/black protective oxides.

The proportional burner control instrumentation maintains a balanced furnace pressure in both the hardening and tempering sections. This ensures the efficiency of atmosphere gas sealing, and the fully modulating burners also contribute to the combustion efficiency by maintaining the correct air/fuel ratio at all levels of demand.

The temperature controller selected for the hardening section acts as a safety device, preventing any possible entry of endothermic atmosphere below ignition temperature.

It has been found that by adopting this more effective use of the hearth area, combined with the finely controlled temperature conditions now available, a much larger output can be processed. Its efficiency can be gauged by the fact that the complete furnace line requires approximately 7.6 therms of heat energy as opposed to the average total of 14.35 therms expended in conventional hardening and temperature processes.

Publications

British industry: concentration processes

The Evolution of Giant Firms in Britain: a study of the growth of concentration in manufacturing industry in Britain 1909-70, by S. J. Prais. (321 pages. Cambridge University Press. 1976. £8.50. ISBN 0 521 21356 8.) The purpose of this publication, which is volume 30 of the NIESR series of Economics and Social Studies, is to provide an examination of the long-term trend towards the domination of large firms in manufacturing industry in Britain. The process of concentration is studied in various aspects: its present extent, the factors which determine its rate of increase and the prospects for the future. Chapter 1 traces both the growth of concentration and the associated decline of small firms. This is followed by a detailed study of the reasons for these trends. Chapter 2 examines the theory of 'spontaneous drift' while chapter 3 analyses changes in plant sizes. Chapter 4 explores marketing economies of scale and in chapter 5 financial factors are discussed. The evolution of large firms in Britain is then compared with the process current in other countries, particularly the United States. The study concludes with an investigation into the relative importance of the various factors examined: the author contends that technological factors are relatively unimportant compared with financial factors and 'spontaneous drift'. Some possible counteracting government policies are then proposed. The book is intended for a wide readership – the main text is kept as simple as possible, while technical details are provided in the extensive notes and appendices.

Business mergers and take-over bids, by R. W. Moon. 5th edition. (266 pages. 1976. Gee and Co. £4.50. SBN 85258 153 X.) This edition, published five years after the previous one, takes into consideration the more important changes in law and City practice, such as the 1973 Fair Trading Act and the *City code on takeovers and mergers*, the April 1976 edition of which is printed as an appendix to the text. Intended mainly for accountants and other financial experts, the book's principal aim, as the sub-title shows, is to study the post-war pattern of amalgamations and reconstructions of companies. The historical industrial background is sketched in, and this is followed by a discussion of the pros and cons of mergers. Types of merger are described followed by chapters on fiscal and valuation considerations. The author then gives details of take-over bid techniques and the concomittant defensive tactics; additionally, in this edition, a chapter deals specifically with the contents of a company's offer document.

Trade and exports: guide to profits and terms

Exporting for profit: the practical handbook for improving export sales, by Arthur J. Day. (337 pages. Graham and Trotman. 1976. Hardback £8.00 ISBN 0 86010 054 5; Paperback £4.50 0 86010 055 3.) This work takes a practical approach to many of the procedures necessary for exporting. It begins with a general discussion of international trade and marketing, and then analyses the advantages and disadvantages of exporting. The author then continues with surveys of the skills necessary. Topics included are pricing, delivery terms, methods of payment, cashflow, credit control and currency. Information is also presented on international trade law, cargo and credit insurance, and transport procedures. Step-by-step diagrams and charts are included, together with fascimiles of export forms in order to familiarise the reader with the documentation likely to be encountered. A short bibliography is given listing works mentioned in the main text, plus a list of useful reference works. An index to subjects and terminology is also included.

Dictionary of Shipping/International Trade Terms and Abbreviations by Alan E. Branch. (117 pages. Witherby and Co Ltd, 5 Plantain Place, Crosby Row, London SE1 1YN. £3.00. ISBN 0900886 16 1.) This book is intended for all those engaged in international trade by sea and provides a comprehensive reference guide to the meanings of the special terms and abbreviations used in this trade. It has been compiled primarily to accompany the various courses available on the subject, eg those sponsored by the Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers, Institute of Export etc. It is also a useful guide for those taking the Foundation Course in Overseas Trade sponsored by the British Overseas Trade Board. There are over 2,600 entries giving clear and concise meanings to help the reader through the maze of international trade and shipping practice terminology. It is particularly helpful to have the meanings of so many abbreviations readily available within the general text.

Eastern Europe: chemical industry

The Chemical Industry of Eastern Europe 1975-1980. Chemical Data Services. (220 pages. IPC Business Press Ltd. 1976. £35.) This directory is the latest in a continuing series of detailed reviews of the chemical industry in various regions of the world. It covers the European members of Comecon as well as Yugoslavia and is designed to give western readers a greater insight into an increasingly significant market. Each country is the subject of a survey which outlines the economic background before proceeding to a review of the chemical industry in the light of its performance during the period of the five year plans which have, in each case, just ended. Also included are the targets set for the 1976/80 plans. Each country survey discusses the sources of raw materials for the industry and there is an in-depth analysis of the main sectors of the industry, illustrated by statistics drawn from official sources. Detailed statistics are also provided for foreign trade by both commodity and country, together with a list of foreign trade organisations connected with the industry, including their addresses, telephone and telex numbers and information about the specific products which they handle. In order to give geographic perspective, maps, of plant locations and pipeline networks are included (11 in the case of the Soviet Union). There is also a separate introductory section on Comecon, discussing its role with respect to the chemical industry. This section also includes a useful outline of Comecon's pipeline network.

Europe's tourist industry

Planning and development of the tourist industry in the ECE region. Economic Commission for Europe. (198 pages. United Nations. Available from Her Majesty's Stationery Office. 1976. £5.40. ISBN 011 9043491.) A symposium on the Planning and Development of the Tourist Industry in the ECE region was held at Dubrovnik in October 1975; and was attended by delegations from member countries of the Economic Commission for Europe, representatives from international tourist organisations and United Nations specialist organisations. This publication contains the

texts of the papers presented at the conference, with an account of the main events at the symposium and a summary of the conclusions and recommendations reached by the meeting. The subject areas of the papers invited by the organisers covered physical planning in Germany, Poland, Sweden and Turkey; the environmental, social and economic implications of tourism, and planning and policy guidelines for its development. Most papers based their studies on a particular country. The secretariat included a background paper prepared for the delegates to the symposium which gave the basic information available on tourism considered necessary for general discussion, but which was not covered in the specialist invited papers. This paper covers factual material on trends and future demand, costs and investment in tourism and includes planning considerations.

Industrial adaptation policies

Policies for Promoting Industrial Adaptation. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development: Industry Committee (48 pages. Available from HMSO. 1976. £1.10. ISBN 92 64 11550 1.) Because they are central to the whole field of industrial policy, the problems of industry's adaptation to economic technological and social change have, for some time, been of concern to OECD's industry committee.

In the new and rapidly evolving situation that resulted from the 1973 oil crisis, an intensified effort to deepen the knowledge and understanding of the adaptation process appeared necessary. As a consequence, the industry committee held a series of discussions on this subject in 1974 and 1975: this report is an out-growth of that activity.

The report's first chapter analyses the nature and scope of the adaptation problem and seeks to delineate the main factors which determine both change and the response to it. Chapter two, entitled goals, trade-offs and costs, concentrates on the objectives of industrial change, the likely conflicts which arise, and the costs and benefits implicit in the problem. These topics are considered from the standpoint of individual firms and workers and also from that of the economy and society as a whole. The general approach to the problem as well as the particular criteria for policy action are described in chapter three: the hitherto rather abstract discussion is illustrated, at this point, by examples of policy guidelines drawn from Japan and the United States.

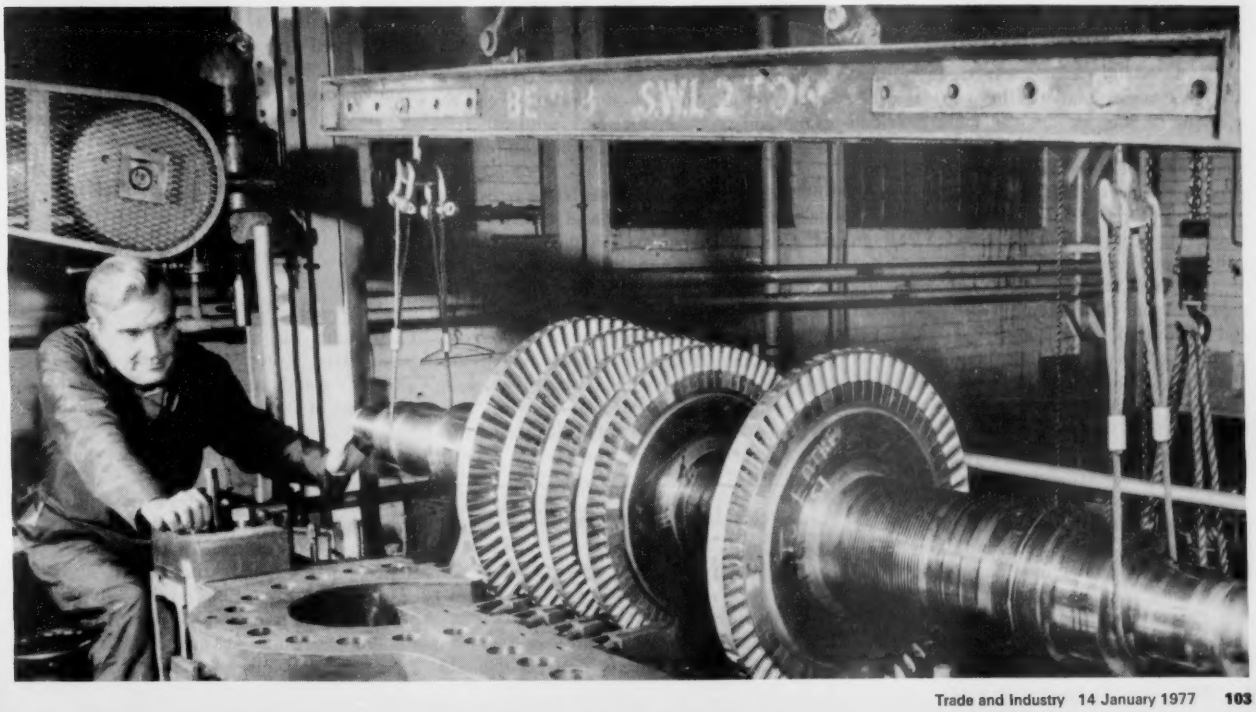
Chapter four is concerned with policy instruments and mechanisms. Three examples of policy instruments are cited: tax incentives; financial assistance; and the promotion of service facilities – training, counselling and technical assistance etc. The report examines the means whereby these mechanisms can be utilised to promote objectives such as the encouragement of mergers and other structural changes. The international implications of both adaptation and the mechanisms adopted to implement it are categorised in chapter five. This section lays particular stress on the changing international context and the consequent need for governmental exchange of information about national industrial policies. The report's conclusions are listed in the final chapter, together with a summary of the main points discussed in the text. The Industry Committee's object in publishing this report will have been achieved if those involved in industrial adaptation, are better able to formulate both the problems and policies as a result of the questions raised and the insights contained in this volume.

'T & I' index inquiries

Readers wanting to know when articles and items of information were published in *Trade and Industry* should consult the published indexes which are issued free to subscribers. For material published in recent months, inquiries of this kind can be made to the Department of Industry Library's indexing section, tel. 01-215 5842. (Alternative no 01-215 5051.)

Turbine-generator for BSC Redcar

Assembling a 16,050kW turbine at the Trafford Park works of GEC Turbine Generators Ltd. This turbine-generator together with a smaller 5,200kW set will supply electrical power and 200,000kg per hour of process steam to the Redcar Steelworks of British Steel Corporation. Included in recent orders worth £5 million won by the Industrial and Marine Steam Turbine Division are three more industrial process turbines. Two 30,000kW double extraction turbine-generators are to be exported to South Korea for the petrochemical complex being engineered by Lummus Co Ltd for Honam Ethylene Company. At Grimethorpe, Yorkshire, a GEC 12,400kW condensing turbine will drive a compressor for the experimental fluidised bed facility being built by the NCB for the International Energy Agency.



European community news

Pulling out of recession is UK's EEC priority – Crosland

The need to pull out of recession and so restore the cohesion of the community will be Britain's immediate concern during the period of her presidency. Making his keynote speech to the European parliament in Luxembourg on 12 January as president of the EEC's council of ministers, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Anthony Crosland was looking forward over the six months of the UK presidency which started on 1 January.

The main tasks ahead of the community in the medium term were, he said, to improve sectoral policies, particularly in agriculture, fisheries and energy; to define and promote economic convergence in more meaningful terms; to work out the proper role for a directly-elected parliament; to expand further the influence of the united community in the world; and to enlarge the community – to include Greece, Portugal and Spain – without doing damage to community ideals.

Mr Crosland also stressed the need to listen with sensitive sympathy to public opinion whose top priority was the elimination of unemployment and the painful consequences of inadequate economic growth. This objective was fundamental to the interests and well-being of the community as a whole. With reference to Britain's recent economic measures, he said the need in an interdependent world was for other economics to grow and import more – particularly the United States, Japan and the stronger economies of the European community.

Mr Crosland acknowledged that there had been widespread disillusionment in the community, but its achievements provided a solid basis for optimism. There was a tendency to take for granted its most striking achievement: the changed nature of western Europe and the setting aside of the tragic rivalries of the past. Common policies and institutions were at the heart of the community, but its future success depended on their continued development and evolution. The enormous economic strength of the community lay behind its increasing influence in the world. Proof of greater political co-operation between member states was seen in the voting record of the Nine at the United Nations.

Internally, he said, the community must recognise realistically both its failures and achievements and must establish priorities and strategy both short and long-term. Critics of the community had focussed on the absence of fundamental changes in the past three years and the lack of progress towards economic and monetary union while overlooking the progress that had been made and the vitality and adaptability of the community's institutions.

Further economic integration within the community was possible only where living standards and economic performance were broadly similar. Economic divergences, particularly between the four largest economies in the community, had increased in the wake of the world economic crisis since 1973. This had undermined economic integration. Intolerable levels of unemployment had barred the way to greater convergence.

Policies must be devised to deal after the recession with investment, exchange rates and regional and social problems in order to counteract uneven economic growth in member countries.

The need for a greater sense of political purpose within the community was recognised, Mr Crosland said. Its final political shape could not be foreseen but the community had become a unique political institution and a highly complex mechanism with a life of its own, motored by the interplay of national and community interests.

The British presidency would do its best to make the community work effectively. An encouraging prospect was the strengthened democratic voice of the directly-elected parliament and a British minister, John Tomlinson, would pay particular attention to the European parliament.

Externally, the community had a full agenda ahead in the commercial and economic fields – for example in the Mediterranean area and also in the Conference on International Economic Co-operation. Particularly important were the community's economic and political relations with the Soviet Union and eastern Europe.

Turning finally to future enlargement of the community, Mr Crosland described this as a challenge. The problems entailed – economic divergence, demands on community funds, difficulties in regard to the common agricultural policy, the possibility of a general loosening within the community – should not be underestimated. But there could be no doubt that they were outweighed by the political benefits. 'Enlargement is an investment in the democratic future of Europe,' he said.

UK ambassadors discuss EEC

UK ambassadors to Britain's partners in the European community and Sir Donald Maitland, the UK's permanent representative to the EEC in Brussels, attended a meeting with Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Anthony Crosland in London on 10 January.

David Owen, Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office was also present at the meeting which was designed to provide a general exchange on EEC matters and to review the presidential role at the start of the UK's tenure of the office.

Two EEC councils for January

Two meetings of the council of ministers were proposed for January, Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office David Owen told the House of Commons on 10 January when he made a statement on forthcoming community business.

Foreign ministers would meet on 18 January, he said, and would discuss the common fisheries policy, the first annual report of the regional development fund, relations with Iran and the community position with regard to issues involved in the north-south dialogue. It might be necessary, he added, to have a further meeting on fish later in the month.

Agriculture ministers would meet on 24 and 25 January and would consider proposals for potato and interim sheep meat regimes, and for increased financial limits under the farm structure directives. They would also resume discussions on measures for achieving a better balance between supply and demand in the milk sector.

A final decision on whether to hold a finance council in January had still to be taken.

Gerald Kaufman in The Hague

Continuing his series of discussions with prospective European partners on future aircraft collaboration, Gerald Kaufman, Minister of State at the Department of Industry, met Dr Lubbers, the Netherlands' Minister for Economic Affairs, in The Hague yesterday (13 January).

As incoming president of the European community's research council, Mr Kaufman also met Professor Brinkhorst, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and outgoing president, for discussions on the community's proposed thermonuclear research project, the joint European Torus (Jet), and the joint research centre.

New commission: portfolios distributed

Agreement was reached on the distribution of portfolios in the new European commission on 7 January. There has been some reshaping of the posts resulting in the following distribution of responsibilities:

Roy Jenkins, president
- Secretariat-general
- Legal service
- Information
- Spokesman's group

Francois-Xavier Ortoli, vice president
- Economics and finance
- Credits and investment
- Statistical office

Wilhelm Haferkamp, vice president
- External relations

Finn Olav Gundelach, vice president
- Agriculture and fisheries

Lorenzo Natali, vice president
- Special responsibility for institutional questions regarding enlargement
- Environmental affairs
- Nuclear safety
- Preparations for direct elections to the European parliament

Henk Vredeling, vice president
- Employment and social affairs
- Tripartite conference

Claude Cheysson
- Development aid

Guido Brunner
- Energy
- Research and science
- Education

Raymond Vouel
- Competition policy

Antonio Gioletti
- Co-ordination of community financial instruments
- Regional policy

Richard Burke
- Taxation
- Transport
- Consumer affairs
- Relations with the European parliament

Viscount Etienne Davignon
- Industrial affairs
- Internal market

Christopher Tugendhat
- Budget and financial control
- Financial institutions
- Personnel and administration

Roy Jenkins among his commissioners at the first meeting of the European commission under his presidency on 6 January.

European union: 'time for a new advance'

The growing divergencies in the economies of member states must be combatted, Roy Jenkins, president of the EEC commission said at the first meeting of the commission on 6 January, 'not by weakening the strong,' he stressed, 'but by strengthening the weak.'

'We must remember our underlying purposes,' he said. 'Our means are economic. Our end remains, as it has always been, political. It is to make a European union, committed to the principles of justice, freedom, intellectual integrity and social fairness. This is the time – even in the teeth of difficulties – for a new advance.'

Mr Jenkins said that the commission was the heir to a tradition of practical idealism going back to Jean Monnet's presidency of the coal and steel community a quarter of a century ago. That tradition had been carried forward with skill and dedication by the outgoing commission led by Mr Jenkins predecessor, president Ortoli.

Pioneers of European unity knew, Mr Jenkins said, that 'they had to graft their ideal into the hearts and minds of the people of Europe' and that this could be done only by giving it practical content in everyday terms. 'Our aim must be to improve the lot of the ordinary citizen throughout the community and to make him or her feel that Europe is becoming a better place to live in.'

London congress on product liability law

The first world congress on product liability law will be held at the Institution of Electrical Engineers in London from 19 to 21 January.

The congress, which will be opened by Minister of State for Prices and Consumer Protection John Fraser, is sponsored by the Research Group International of Charlottesville, Virginia, and will feature European and American leaders of government, law, industry, insurance and consumer protection.

Speakers at the congress will include Ralph Nader, leading American consumer spokesman and lawyer, Aubrey Diamond, director of the British Law Commission on Product Liability, Dr H. Kroger, head of the Union of European Industries Legal Department, and Dr H. C. Flicker of the EEC Internal Market Group.

Further information may be obtained from Conference Services Ltd, 43 Charles Street, London W1X 7PB.

EEC directive on units of measurement

There is a number of printing errors in the English text of the directive on units of measurement (76/770/EEC), published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* on 27 September 1976. These have been corrected in a 'Corrigendum' published in the *Official Journal*, No. L344 of 14 December 1976, which, for presentational reasons, is a complete new annex to the directive.

Copies of the *Official Journal* are available from HMSO.

More community news

Information on European community matters and about member states can often be found in other sections of *Trade and Industry*. For this week's additional news, turn to the following pages:

Technology news
UKAEA's contract for EEC reactor project 99

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Europe's tourist industry 102

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Eurodata Foundation formed 115
NTI 1595: Imports of cotton yarn from Spain 116
British goods on show at Paris embassy 116
New contacts for British industry in Normandy 117

Country data
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Registrations of British, community and foreign films 140

European community new legislation

The legislation listed below has been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* as indicated against each item. The *Official Journal* is now published in English and copies should be obtained from HMSO. Information about the items listed, in so far as other member states' requirements are concerned, is available to British exporters from Department of Trade, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757, ext. 7174/482/408). Other information may be obtained from the reference point given at the end of the item.

Common agricultural policy

The texts of the following regulations which affect the various agricultural sectors in the EEC have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*:

Wine. Regulation (EEC) 2996/76 fixing the activating prices for table wines for the period 16 December 1976 to 15 December 1977 (*Official Journal* L342, 11 December 1976).

Regulation (EEC) 2997/76 amending for the third time regulation (EEC) 1876!74 concerning the addition of alcohol to products in the wine sector. This replaces the date '31 December 1976' in article 4 of regulation (EEC) 1876/74 by '31 December 1977' (*Official Journal* L342, 11 December 1976).

Regulation (EEC) 3002/76 laying down detailed rules for export refunds in the wine sector (*Official Journal* L342, 11 December 1976).

Regulation (EEC) 3059/76 amending for the third time regulation (EEC) 1019/70 on detailed rules for establishing free-at-frontier offer prices and fixing the countervailing charge in the wine sector (*Official Journal* L345, 15 December 1976).

Regulation (EEC) 3060/76 granting aid for the long-term private storage of certain table wines for the wine year 1976/77 (*Official Journal* L345, 15 December 1976).

Milk and milk products. Regulation (EEC) 3069/76 amending regulation (EEC) 677/76 laying down detailed rules for the application of the system for compulsory purchase of skimmed-milk powder. In the English language version of regulation (EEC) 677/76 article 10(4) shall be amended to read as follows:

> '4. The security shall be forfeit where the party concerned:
> (a) has not renounced his right to put into free circulation, and
> (b) except in the case of *force majeure*, has not furnished proof of one of the matters referred to in paragraph 1(b), (c), (f) and (g) by 1 March 1977 or one of those referred to in paragraph 1(d) and (e) by 30 April 1977.'

(*Official Journal* L346, 16 December 1976).

Pigs and pigmeat. Regulation (EEC) 3072/76 amending regulation (EEC) 572/76 as regards the conditions for granting monetary compensatory amounts applicable to certain pigmeat products. This adds the following footnote [3] in respect of tariff subheading 16.01B1 and 16.01 B II, 6.02 B IIIa)1 cc) and 16.02 B IIIa) 2 to part 2 of annex 1 to regulation (EEC) 572/76:

> '(3) The grant of monetary compensatory amounts in respect of these products is subject to compliance with the conditions for the grant of refunds laid down in Regulation (EEC) 2403/69. The exporter or importer at the time of the conclusion of customs formalities concerning the export or the import in a Member State granting the monetary compensatory amount, shall declare in writing that the products in question fulfil these conditions.'

(*Official Journal* L346, 16 December 1976).

Cereals. Regulation (EEC) 3103/76 on aid for durum wheat (*Official Journal* L351, 21 December 1976).

Fruit and vegetables. Regulation (EEC) 3110/76 authorising the supply to the processing industries of oranges withdrawn from the market, laying down the conditions for such supply and amending regulation (EEC) 1687/76 (*Official Journal* L351, 21 December, 1976).

Harmonisation of legislation

EEC pattern approvals. *The Official Journal of the European Communities* C298, 17 December 1976, contains a notice about EEC pattern approvals, published in application of directive 71/316/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the member states relating to common provisions for both measuring instruments and methods of metrological control. The pattern approvals are for gas meters, non-automatic weighing machines and measures of length.

Copies of *Official Journal* C298 may be obtained from HMSO, price 70p plus postage.

Units of measurement. *The Official Journal of the European Communities* L344, 14 December 1976 contains the text of a corrected version of the annex to directive 76/770/EEC which amends directive 71/354/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the member states relating to units of measurement.

Copies of *Official Journal* L344 may be obtained from HMSO, price 70p plus postage.

Proposed application for EEC duty-free tariff quota on helicopters

The Department of Trade is considering an application for a duty-free tariff quota for imports from third countries of Sikorsky S61N helicopters for use in oil rig support operations, on the grounds that there are no equivalent community-built helicopters available.

If a tariff quota was opened, it would be a community quota in which all member states, including the UK, would have the right to participate.

In considering this request, the department will wish to take account of UK helicopter manufacturing and operating interests. Representations are invited from manufacturers in this country who consider they are, or will be within a reasonable period, in a position to supply a substantial proportion of the UK demand for this or an equivalent type of helicopter, or who are interested in future production. UK operators who wish to support the opening of a quota and who wish to participate in it are invited to inform the department of their estimated import requirements (quantity and value) during the period January 1977 to June 1978.

Tariff quotas come into effect on the operative date of the legislation authorising them. They provide for the importation of limited amounts of goods in a given period at zero or reduced rates of duty. Any goods that do not obtain tariff quota relief are charged the normal rates of duty. Imports are debited against tariff quotas in the order in which any importer enters them for home use and applies for relief from duty.

Interested parties who wish to make representations should address them to General Division 2, Department of Trade, Room 329, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ, to arrive not later than 24 January.

'T & I' index inquiries

Readers wanting to know when articles and items of information were published in *Trade and Industry* should consult the published indexes which are issued free to subscribers. For material published in recent months, inquiries of this kind can be made to the Department of Industry Library's indexing section, tel. 01-215 5842. (Alternative no 01-215 5051.)

Commission makes new proposals for equal social security treatment

A draft directive which would ensure equal treatment for men and women in social security matters has been approved by the European commission and submitted to the council of ministers*. It would complement an earlier directive adopted by the council on 9 February last year, which put into effect the principle of equal treatment for men and women concerning access to employment, promotion, vocational training and working conditions.†

When approving the earlier directive, the council agreed that at a later date following a proposal from the commission, it would adopt provisions to ensure the progressive implementation of equal treatment in social security matters. The commission has since made a study of the differences in treatment between men and women in the field of social security and has found numerous differences in treatment both as concerns mandatory schemes – ie those imposed by law – and occupational schemes which in many cases operate clearly to the disadvantage of women. In other cases, however, differences in treatment have been designed to take account of differences in the social and economic position of women which may be of decreasing significance but which have already had an important influence.

The proposed directive necessarily applies to the same categories of persons as are covered by the parent directive: the present and former working population including the self-employed and those seeking work. For this reason arrangements for the non-employed – housewives, for example – are outside the scope of the present directive.

Matters of social security are defined as all systems of protection against certain contingencies, for example unemployment, sickness, medical care, old age, invalidity and industrial accidents and diseases. The directive will cover social security schemes established by law, occupational schemes and social assistance arrangements so far as they relate to these contingencies.

Within these areas there is to be no discrimination on the basis of sex as regards the conditions for receiving benefits or the rate, duration, etc, of the benefits. But the directive does not set out to eliminate all differences in treatment between men and women in a single judicial instrument but rather to initiate a first phase in the implementation of the principle.

Member states will be allowed during the first phase to exclude from the application of the directive certain areas where the provisions might be thought to favour women. For instance in the determination of pensionable age for old age or retirement pension; in the reckoning of periods of employment for pension and other purposes for example, in the acquisition of rights following an interruption of employment; or in the acquisition of rights for a wife by virtue of her husband's insurance record.

Although these differences of treatment are to be permitted for now, the directive provides that they should be kept under review and modified when the social and economic circumstances which they reflect no longer apply. The results of this experience will be taken into account in considering further community measures.

It is proposed that the present directive should be implemented in three stages: for mandatory social security schemes, the implementation of equal treatment would be two years after publication; for that part of mandatory schemes which concerns increases for dependants, it is proposed that the period for implementation should be extended to three years; and a period of four years has been allowed for the application of the directive regarding occupational schemes.

* Com (76) 650

† *Official Journal of the European Communities* L39 of February 14, 1976

EIB lends US $51 million for British Petroleum projects

Two loans, totalling US $51 million (45.9 million units of account) have been made by the European Investment Bank to the British Petroleum group (BP).

The first loan, US $33 million (29.7mua), for eight years at an interest rate of 8.5 per cent will help to finance the construction of an acetic acid plant at Hull.

The main uses of acetic acid are in the manufacture of synthetic fibres and vinyl acetate (a constituent of emulsion paints and adhesives). The group is spending about £55 million on setting up this new plant.

The second loan, US $18 million (16.2mua), also for eight years at 8.5 per cent will go towards BP's share of the cost of a pipeline system about 180km long from the Ninian oil field in the British sector of the North Sea to crude oil processing, storage and loading facilities at Sullom Voe in the Shetland Islands. The estimated total cost of the system is around £200 million.

Oil is expected to flow through the system from the spring of 1978 onwards and throughput, including production from the nearby Heather field, should by 1980 reach about 18 million tons per year.

By the early 1980s the pipeline could be handling a significantly greater oil flow since it will have adequate capacity to serve other oil reserves discovered nearby and which appear to be commercially promising.

New loan for BSC projects

A loan equivalent to £17 million (25.6 million units of account) has been made to the British Steel Corporation by the European Investment Bank: the conditions are 10 years at an interest rate of 8 7/8 per cent.

The funds will go towards new facilities to increase casing pipe finishing capacity, mainly to meet the needs of North Sea oil and gas development, for which the corporation is to invest about £42 million at its Clydesdale works at Mossend, and Imperial works at Airdrie and at their Hartlepool works in County Cleveland, north-east England.

This is the tenth EIB loan to go to BSC and it brings the volume of finance provided by the bank for different modernisation and expansion projects to £108.85 million.

The total sum lent by the EIB for investments in the UK since the country's membership of the EEC now totals £558.2 million, of which £258.95 million was provided last year.

Roadworthiness tests directive adopted

A directive on the approximation of the laws of member states for roadworthiness tests on certain motor vehicles and their trailers was adopted by EEC transport ministers at their council meeting on 16 December.

The directive concerns lorries, buses, taxis and ambulances. The UK view, based on experience of testing over recent years, was that testing after one year – which is current practice in the UK – was not making the best use of resources and that testing after three years and using the money saved to finance spot-checks on vehicles of any age would be more effective. The commission proposed a compromise of two years, but everyone except the UK and Ireland were adamantly in favour of one year and the UK eventually acquiesced to that period.

The directive provides for a transitional period totalling six years from its adoption. During the first year member states are required to adapt their national laws and regulations to the provisions of the directive; during the remaining period these provisions may be brought gradually into operation.

Social measures

During the council's examination of the interim report on the proposal for a regulation on the harmonisation of certain social legislation relating to road transport, ministers in general found it impossible to agree.

There were six points under discussion. Of these, four – derogation for national transport in all member states, derogations for a transitional period from draft regulation R642/76 for new member states, the exemption from the installation of tachographs in certain commercial vehicles and the question of rest periods and spreadovers – were referred back to the committee of permanent representatives (Coreper) for further work. Of the other two, the provision banning bonuses for distances covered or the quantity of goods carried unless they are not such as to jeopardise road safety was agreed, while the proposed abolition of the 450km limit to one-man operation provided a tachograph was installed was steadfastly opposed by the Italian minister except in connection with other major points.

The chairman ruled that, since none of the members opposed in principle the abolition of the 450km limit to one-man operation, the council would take a definitive decision in

the context of other changes to be made to the existing regulation (543/69). In effect this means that the decision is shelved until all the other points can be agreed.

Weights and dimensions

Ministers also considered the commission's suggestions on the weights and dimensions of commercial vehicles. The commission had proposed fixing a maximum laden weight of 40 tonnes for five-axle vehicles used in traffic between member states without specifying a limit to individual axle weight. This proposal was designed to permit greater standardisation of production and to contribute to effective harmonisation of conditions of competition since only vehicles meeting these particular standards would be eligible for registration in, and admission to, all the member states and at the same time to evade a head-on clash over the question of axle weights.

Although some member states were not in agreement with the proposal as it stands the council nevertheless agreed to direct the commission to work up a detailed proposal and to submit it to the council at one of its forthcoming meetings.

Transport of perishable foodstuffs (ATP)

The commission made an oral statement to the council on the outcome of the meeting of experts on 26 November to align interim policies of those member states which had ratified the ATP agreement with those who had not yet done so. The council took note.

Common rules for certain types of goods traffic

The council discussed a proposal for a directive on the establishment of common rules for certain types of carriage of goods by road between member states. This proposal was designed to give a broader definition of frontier zones, taking account more especially of their economic structures, the way in which they are administered and their geographical peculiarities. It also aimed at freeing certain specific categories of transport from the quantitative restrictions to which they are subject, particularly the transport of perishable foodstuffs in controlled-temperature vehicles and the transport of live animals in special vehicles.

The council agreed that the carriage of live animals could be liberalised, but German opposition prevented agreement on the carriage of perishable foodstuffs. The German minister stressed the impossibility for Germany, as a transit country, of accepting a substantial increase of goods traffic on her roads. The council instructed the committee of permanent representatives to continue its discussions on other aspects of this matter and to report back to the next transport council.

Railway co-operation

The council decided to send to the group of railway companies of the nine countries of the European community the letter drafted by the committee of permanent representatives which requested the railway companies to step up their co-operation. For the time being, however, ministers decided not to ask these companies to submit a joint report on the progress of their co-operation.

The council noted that the commission intended to prepare a work programme to enable it to take the necessary steps to co-operate with the member states and the railway organisations on a study of supplementary measures to achieve further co-operation within the framework of the decision of 20 May 1975 and to submit a progress report to the council before 1 January 1978.

Transport of goods to and from third countries

The Dutch chairman of the council read a statement on the need to improve co-ordination and exchange of information between member states on trade with third countries, particularly those of eastern Europe. The statement suggested that a formal information procedure should be established. The council took note.

Training and quotas

The council confirmed its decisions of principle on 4 November and adopted the directive on the minimum level of training for road transport drivers and the regulation on the community quota for the carriage of goods by road between member states.

European conference on antitrust and trade regulation

Legal Studies and Services will hold its 1977 European conference on antitrust and trade regulation on Tuesday and Wednesday, 15 and 16 February, at the Inn on the Park, Hamilton Place, London W1. It is mainly for corporate lawyers, lawyers in private practice, and company executives involved in corporate development.

The conference will consider the complexities of the law affecting cartels, information agreements, exclusive dealings, selective distribution, refusal to sell, unfair use of patents and trade marks, abuse of dominance by unfair price, mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, antitrust enforcement, and consumer protection.

Further information from Sue De Bock Porter of Legal Studies and Services, tel. 01-242 2481/3473.

Marketing technical products in the EEC

A two-day seminar devoted to solving the problems of marketing in the EEC will be held on 15 to 16 March at the City University, London EC1.

This seminar, organised by the Sira Institute Ltd, will concentrate on the profile of the major countries; the community, and practical methods by which export trade to these countries can be established. The keynote will be practicality, with the aim of helping companies avoid legal, commercial and marketing pitfalls.

Topics discussed will be directly concerned with light engineering, particularly precision and electrical engineering and the instrument industry.

For more information contact Mrs R. G. Keiller, Sira Institute Ltd, South Hill, Chislehurst, Kent BR7 5EH.

Feoga grants for individual capital projects

The EEC commission has decided on the second and final list of successful applicants under the 1976 programme for individual capital projects under regulation 17/64/EEC, and is notifying the beneficiaries and the member states concerned. Seventy-eight beneficiaries from the UK will receive grants totalling £8,289,812.

The projects which will be receiving grant fall into the following broad categories:

	No of projects	Grant £
Agricultural co-operatives	1	108,670
Animal feedingstuffs	4	1,065,906
Milk processing	8	748,709
Meat processing	5	1,193,299
Poultry processing	10	1,186,299
Fish processing	3	288,993
Fishing vessels	47	3,697,936
	78	8,289,812

In the first tranche under the 1976 programme 26 beneficiaries from the UK were awarded grants totalling £2,801,978. The total aid awarded to successful applicants in the UK under the 1976 programme is £11,091,790.

A total of 215 projects have been submitted from the UK for the 1977 programme of Feoga grants for individual capital projects. The projects fall into the following broad categories:

	No of projects	Estimated cost £
Land drainage (arterial)	10	5,542,000
Agricultural co-operatives	6	1,750,000
Animal feedingstuffs manufacture	13	8,416,000
Milk and milk products	13	5,249,000
Meat processing	32	29,620,000
Slaughterhouses (red meat)	45	33,143,000
Poultry processing	28	26,358,000
Other food processing	14	6,868,000
Fishing vessels	22	6,681,000
Fish processing	9	7,331,000
Other fishery projects	3	932,000
Grain drying and storage	6	1,518,000
Other	14	6,394,000
Total	215	139,802,000

The extent to which funds will be available in 1978 is not yet certain, since the individual projects scheme is expected to be phased out in favour of a new regulation for assistance to marketing and processing projects. An announcement will be made in due course.

In the meantime, any inquiries should be addressed to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, GAP II Division, 49/53 Parliament Street, London SW1A 2NH, tel. 01-233 4380 or 01-233 4398.

Economic indicators of the EEC

These tables have been prepared for the convenience of users who do not have access to the sources themselves; international publications (as indicated) have been used, supplemented by later reports where possible. In addition to the member states of the EEC, the United States and Japan have been included for comparison.

The form of presentation adopted – indicators by subject – is for convenience only, and it must not be assumed that the indicators in the same table for different countries are strictly comparable. An attempt has been made to indicate major differences of definition, but the coverage and methods of collection vary considerably; this is partly due to different administrative procedures in various countries. Fuller details may be obtained from the sources indicated, and from the national publications of the countries concerned.

From 6 August 1976, actual unemployment figures rather than indices have been published. Unemployment rates reflect national practices of defining the rate rather than those based on the size of the labour force in 1970 which had been used previously. These changes are in concert with the comparison of international unemployment now published regularly in the *Department of Employment Gazette* where seasonally unadjusted figures are also to be seen.

TABLE 1 **Industrial production** (excluding construction) seasonally adjusted — Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium	Luxembourg	France[1]	German F.R.	Ireland[2]	Italy	Netherlands	United Kingdom[5]	EEC[3]	*United States*[4]	*Japan*
Weights in EEC	3.9	0.3	18.1	39.9	0.6	13.3	4.5	19.4	100.0	—	—
Weights in total	1.3	0.1	6.0	13.2	0.2	4.4	1.5	6.4	33.1	*43.3*	*11.9*
1970	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	*100*	*100*
1971	103	99	104	102	105	100	106	100	102	*102*	*103*
1972	109	103	112	106	109	104	111	102	106	*111*	*110*
1973	116	115	120	113	119	114	118	111	115	*120*	*127*
1974	120	119	123	112	123	119	121	108	116	*120*	*124*
1975	108	93	112	105	115	109	115	102	107	*109*	*110*
1975 1st quarter	112	103	114	106	115	110	117	107	109	*105*	*106*
2nd quarter	107	92	111	104	115	107	114	101	105	*106*	*110*
3rd quarter	105	82	110	103	115	106	111	100	105	*112*	*112*
4th quarter	108	95	114	108	116	111	119	102	109	*114*	*113*
1976 1st quarter	115	98	121	112	125	117	120	103	113	*118*	*119*
2nd quarter	121	104	122	113	125	120	121	104	114	*120*	*126*
3rd quarter	116	95	125	112			122	104	114	*122*	*127*
1975 April	111	93	112	102		109	113	103	105	*103*	*109*
May	105	84	108	106		103	114	100	105	*103*	*110*
June	111	96	112	103		109	114	100	106	*104*	*111*
July	101	90	110	99		110	109	101	103	*105*	*114*
August	100	61	110	104		98	111	99	103	*107*	*112*
September	108	96	111	106		110	114	101	106	*109*	*114*
October	107	89	113	107		111	116	102	108	*113*	*114*
November	110	98	113	109		113	122	102	109	*115*	*112*
December	109	98	117	109		108	120	101	109	*115*	*114*
1976 January	111	97	120	110		112	120	102	111	*117*	*117*
February	115	98	120	114		119	120	103	114	*118*	*119*
March	120	99	122	111		119	121	103	113	*119*	*123*
April	122	99	122	112		119	121	104	114	*119*	*127*
May	120	107	122	111		123	121	106	114	*120*	*124*
June	121	105	123	115		119	122	102	115	*121*	*126*
July	106	92	124	108		122	119	104	113	*121*	*129*
August	121	83	124	114		119	120	103	115	*122*	*127*
September	122	111	128	114			126	104		*122*	*126*
October			123 (e)	118			126 (e)	104		*121*	*124*
November										*123* (e)	*129*
% change latest three months:											
On previous three months	−3.9	−8.0	1.6	3.6	nil	−0.3	2.8	−0.3	0.6	*0.5*	*−0.8*
On a year earlier	12.9	15.8	12.3	9.2	8.7	13.6	9.1	3.0	9.9	*8.6*	*11.5*

[1] Excluding clothing, wood products and furniture. [2] Mining and manufacturing only. [3] Excluding Denmark. (e) Estimated.
[4] From 1976, data are not comparable with those for earlier periods. [5] UK per cent changes are calculated with a non-rounded series
Source: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'

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HMSO BOOKS

TABLE 2 Unemployment seasonally adjusted

Numbers thousands

	Belgium[2]	Den-mark[4]	France[1]	German F.R.[1]	Ireland[2]	Italy[3]	Nether-lands[1]	United Kingdom[1]	*United States*[3]	*Japan*[3]
1971	71	30	337	185	42	613	62	776	*4,993*	*639*
1972	87	30	380	246	48	696	108	885	*4,840*	*730*
1973	92	20	394	274	44	669	110	611	*4,304*	*670*
1974	105	45	498	583	48	560	135	600[5]	*5,076*	*740*
1975	177	103	840	1,074	75	654	195	929	*7,830*	*1,000*
1975 1st quarter	142	101	708	1,019	69	553	174	738	*7,664*	*910*
2nd quarter	170	101	829	1 073	75	727	190	847	*8,203*	*962*
3rd quarter	190	99	915	1,110	78	653	207	1,000	*7,802*	*1,025*
4th quarter	209	111	916	1,141	80	698	211	1,132	*7,824*	*1,124*
1976 1st quarter	210	111	907	1,163	82	625	208	1,223	*7,151*	*1,067*
2nd quarter	229	98	950	1,027	84	755	206	1,246	*7,014*	*1,100*
3rd quarter	240	102	951	1,015		780	222 (e)	1,308	*7,439*	*1,102*
1975 June	180	96	878	1,084	77		193	894	*8,071*	*1,015*
July	183	85	885	1,113	78		202	968	*8,096*	*966*
August	191	104	864	1,121	77		207	997	*7,924*	*1,029*
September	199	107	933	1,097	79		210	1,034	*7,970*	*1,056*
October	211	109	928	1,132	80		211	1,089	*8,092*	*1,139*
November	211	107	913	1,137	80		211	1,133	*7,939*	*1,126*
December	208	117	906	1,153	81		211	1,175	*7,735*	*1,105*
1976 January	206	114	900	1,188	82		208	1,211	*7,290*	*1,092*
February	208	113	901	1,194	83		212	1,232	*7,136*	*1,066*
March	216	106	921	1,107	82		205	1,227	*7,027*	*1,043*
April	221	102	931	1,073	84		203	1,234	*7,040*	*1,080*
May	228	97	953	1,003	85		205	1,250	*6,860*	*1,108*
June	238	94	967	1,004	83		211	1,257	*7,143*	*1,112*
July	238	103	950	1,023	85		218	1,294	*7,426*	*1,117*
August	244	99	962	1,031	86 (e)		227	1,309	*7,506*	*1,120*
September	237	103	941	992			221	1,319	*7,384*	*1,068*
October	230	115	935	1,016			215	1,305	*7,569*	*1,095* (e)
November	243 (e)		931 (e)	1,046 (e)				n.a.	*7,769* (e)	
December								1,330		
Rate % in latest month	9.2 (e)	10.5 (e)	5.2	4.6 (e)	12.4	3.8	5.2 (e)	5.6	*8.1*	*2.0*
% change latest three months										
On previous three months	−1,1	7.8	−2.5	−0.1	1.2	3.3	4.4	+0.8	*+2.9*	*+1.8*
On a year earlier	14.7	−0.9	+1.2	−9.3	9.5	19.5	5.4	+16.4	*−6.3*	*−1.6*

Unemployment data are defined and collected on different bases in different countries. The following notes indicate the main variations which prevent direct international comparison.

1 Registered unemployed (excluding school leavers); rate per cent of total employees
2 Insured unemployed; rate per cent of total insured population.
3 Labour force sample survey; rate per cent of total labour force.
4 Unemployment-insurance beneficiaries; rate per cent of total numbers insured.
5 Estimated in the absence of figures for December 1974.
6 Averaged over component months. Rates per cent relate to the last period for which unemployment figures are given.
7 Some seasonally adjusted data have been estimated from unadjusted material.
8 UK per cent changes are calculated with a non-rounded series.

Source: OECD Main Economic Indicators and *Department of Employment Gazette*

TABLE 3 Exports (fob) Special trade[1], seasonally adjusted

US$ million*

	Belgium/ Luxem-bourg	Den-mark[2]	France	German F.R.	Ireland[2]	Italy	Nether-lands	United King-dom[2]	EEC	*United States*[3]	*Japan*[2]
1970	11,592	3,288	17,940	34,188	1,032	13,188	11,772	19,356	112,356	*43,224*	*19,320*
1971	12,081	3,609	20,592	39,009	1,308	15,177	13,953	22,356	128,084	*44,211*	*23,994*
1972	15,995	4,330	25,739	46,208	1,610	18,535	15,392	24,340	153,152	*49,676*	*28,591*
1973	22,416	6,120	35,952	67,440	2,124	22,236	23,952	28,862	210,684	*71,316*	*36,936*
1974	28,260	7,716	45,900	89,160	2,628	30,288	32,436	37,188	275,100	*98,508*	*55,536*
1975	28,812	8,712	52,212	90,024	3,216	34,824	34,440	41,689	295,992	*107,652*	*55,752*
1975 1st quarter	7,893	2,199	13,557	23,625	771	8,712	8,928	10,835	77,121	*26,840*	*14,907*
2nd quarter	7,035	2,193	13,317	23,133	756	8,454	8,532	10,413	74,442	*25,795*	*13,842*
3rd quarter	6,408	2,055	12,441	21,060	795	8,697	7,869	9,859	69,813	*27,135*	*13,176*
4th quarter	7,227	2,241	12 876	22,356	852	9,015	9,138	10,470	74,865	*28,206*	*14,097*
1976 1st quarter	7,632	2,148	13,539	23,583	723	8,466	9,075	10,839	76,716	*26,619*	*15,882*
2nd quarter	7,767	2,241	13,956	24,549	813	8,820	8,691	10,828	78,303	*28,692*	*16,587*
3rd quarter		2,316	13,707	25,578	828			10,814		*29,598*	*16,976* (e)
1975 June	2,388	749	4,581	8,169	221	2,921	2,857	3,384	25,482	*8,788*	*4,481*
July	2,053	707	4,186	7,224	266	2,799	2,655	3,418	23,532	*8,868*	*4,423*
August	2,240	671	4,142	6,704	263	3,031	2,499	3,149	22,902	*9,119*	*4,420*
September	2,116	678	4,114	7,132	265	2,848	2,708	3,298	23,378	*9,147*	*4,333*
October	2,271	806	4,148	7,200	316	2,918	3,008	3,555	24,489	*9,303*	*4,764*
November	2,632	724	4,315	7,764	290	3,182	3,095	3,356	25,591	*9,527*	*4,467*
December	2,324	711	4,414	7,392	246	2,916	3,037	3,562	24,785	*9,376*	*4,849*
1976 January	2,488	768	4,425	7,747	247	3,062	2,903	3,600	25,456	*8,840*	*5,037*
February	2,648	683	4,637	7,692	247	2,591	3,017	3,552	25,328	*8,858*	*5,223*
March	2,495	698	4,478	8,145	228	2,813	3,155	3,686	25,931	*8,920*	*5,610*
April	2,550	723	4,568	7,981	290	2,775	2,899	3,552	25,551	*9,114*	*5,299*
May	2,622	780	4,899	8,459	274	3,319	3,009	3,636	27,230	*9,889*	*5,648*
June	2,594	738	4,488	8,100	249	2,725	2,785	3,634	25,511	*9,689*	*5,640*
July	2,293	740	4,321	7,842	270	3,120	3,100	3,480	25,369	*9,852*	*5,483*
August	2,724	791	4,687	8,368	257	3,092	3,198	3,636	26,965	*9,811*	*5,499*
September		784	4,698	9,367	301	3,558 (e)	3,069 (e)	3,691		*9,934*	*6,000* (e)
October			4,951 (e)	9,426 (e)				3,642		*9,850* (e)	*5,982* (e)
November								3,643			*6,180* (e)
% change in dollar terms latest three months:											
On previous three months	−0.7	3.3	4.6	11.3	1.9	10.8	7.8	2.1	−1.1	*0.6*	*9.3*
On a year earlier	13.9	12.6	15.6	29.1	4.3	12.6	19.1	7.5	8.2	*7.4*	*33.9*
% change in national currencies latest three months:											
On previous three months	−0.2	3.3	8.9	7.1	4.3	8.0	6.1	9.8	5.9	*0.6*	*6.9*
On a year earlier	22.6	15.6	29.7	23.1	25.8	42.2	21.2	34.5	26.8	*7.4*	*30.0*

[1] For most purposes special trade may be defined as trade excluding re-exports. [2] General trade. [3] Weighted average of percentage changes in national currencies.
* All values are expressed in US dollars, making use of IMF parity rates as quoted in 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'.
(e) estimated.

Source: United Kingdom: Department of Trade
All others: 'OECD Series "A".'

TABLE 4 **Imports (cif)** Special trade[1], seasonally adjusted

US$ million*

	Belgium/ Luxem-bourg	Den-mark[2]	France	German F.R.	Ireland[2]	Italy	Nether-lands	United Kingdom[2]	EEC	*United States*[2,3]	*Japan*[2]
1970	11,352	4,380	19,116	29,808	1,572	14,940	13,392	21,720	116,280	*39,960*	*18,876*
1971	12,390	4,476	21,261	34,356	1,838	16,026	15,159	23,897	129,403	*45,633*	*19,716*
1972	14,879	4,986	26,696	39,759	2,113	19,252	17,127	27,831	152,643	*55,819*	*23,463*
1973	21,936	7,704	37,380	54,492	2,784	27,816	24,360	38,872	215,232	*69,120*	*38,316*
1974	29,700	9,852	52,824	68,976	3,816	40,968	33,204	54,345	293,568	*100,968*	*62,112*
1975	30,708	10,332	54,240	74,208	3,804	38,364	35,148	53,686	300,048	*96,936*	*57,864*
1975 1st quarter	7,479	2,445	14,016	18,618	987	9,273	9,297	14,057	76,158	*25,002*	*14,895*
2nd quarter	7,359	2,415	13,131	18,678	924	9,039	8,760	13,094	73,395	*22,275*	*13,521*
3rd quarter	6,891	2,439	12,777	17,865	894	9,399	8,091	13,177	71,532	*24,303*	*14,451*
4th quarter	7,626	2,844	14,328	19,188	1,011	10,602	9,084	13,198	77,877	*25,515*	*15,129*
1976 1st quarter	7,752	2,856	15,138	20,043	1,032	9,798	8,901	13,224	78,771	*27,471*	*15,061*
2nd quarter	8,055	2,964	15,351	20,808	975	10,614	9,474	13,998	82,269	*28,725*	*14,994*
3rd quarter		3,117	16,176	22,281	1,044			14,307		*32,445*	
1975 June	2,453	790	4,472	6,222	295	3,234	2,988	4,377	24,836	*7,052*	*4,333*
July	2,267	803	4,294	5,847	302	3,142	2,676	4,520	23,848	*7,805*	*4,823*
August	2,185	805	4,173	5,843	286	2,814	2,544	4,447	23,097	*8,130*	*4,593*
September	2,440	830	4,309	6,174	305	3,443	2,870	4,212	24,587	*8,370*	*5,034*
October	2,456	874	4,644	6,320	308	3,288	2,766	4,397	25,049	*8,406*	*5,089*
November	2,605	978	4,897	6,307	357	3,637	3,203	4,367	26,349	*8,555*	*4,793*
December	2,565	991	4,786	6,562	345	3,676	3,116	4,439	26,478	*8,555*	*5,221*
1976 January	2,671	888	5,043	6,534	332	3,177	2,959	4,423	26,022	*9,425*	*5,126*
February	2,523	972	5,125	6,699	356	3,193	2,902	4,561	26,340	*8,820*	*5,037*
March	2,559	996	4,971	6,811	353	3,429	3,041	4,242	26,408	*9,226*	*4,884*
April	2,661	993	5,020	7,146	321	3,641	3,282	4,622	27,665	*9,651*	*4,975*
May	2,822	981	5,479	6,983	338	3,692	3,176	4,664	28,157	*9,192*	*4,899*
June	2,572	989	4,852	6,680	326	3,280	3,014	4,705	26,449	*9,883*	*5,120*
July	2,534	906	4,904	6,920	332	3,372	3,128	4,830	26,951	*10,936*	*5,537*
August	2,751	1,081	5,562	7,711	344	3,538	3,358	4,600	28,975	*10,682*	*5,634*
September		1,129	5,709	7,650	368	3,954 (e)	2,994 (e)	4,870		*10,828*	*5,700* (e)
October			5,464 (e)	7,944 (e)				4,708			*5,750* (e)
November								4,969			
% change in dollar terms latest three months:											
On previous three months	−2.3	5.2	9.9	13.2	6.0	2.4	0.1	2.9	0.2	*13.0*	*9.8*
On a year earlier	13.8	28.5	27.5	27.1	16.9	15.6	17.2	12.1	14.8	*33.5*	*16.1*
% change in national currencies latest three months:											
On previous three months	−1.8	5.2	14.4	8.9	8.5	−0.2	−1.5	10.7	5.5	*13.0*	*7.4*
On a year earlier	22.5	32.0	43.0	21.2	41.0	46.0	19.2	40.2	33.1	*33.6*	*12.7*

[1] For most purposes special trade may be defined as trade excluding re-exports. [2] General trade. [3] fob. [4] Weighted average of percentage changes in national currencies.
* All values are expressed in US dollars with the use of IMF parity rates as quoted in 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'.
(e) estimated.
Source: United Kingdom: Department of Trade. All others: 'OECD Series "A" '.

TABLE 5 **Balance of payments on current account**

US$ million (unadjusted)

	Belgium/ Luxem-bourg	Den-mark	France	German F.R.	Ireland	Italy	Nether-lands	United Kingdom	EEC	*United States*	*Japan*
1970	724	−544	297	870	−189	902	−522	1,760	3,157	*2,156*	*1,970*
1971	851	−423	530	884	−190	2,041	−155	2,630	5,616	*−1,323*	*5,821*
1972	1,113	−66	297	775	−134	2,266	1,290	386	6,193	*−5,550*	*6,624*
1973	1,140	−472	−691	4,301	−219	−2,510	2,310	−1,806	2,095	*7,156*	*−133*
1974	911	−982	−5,941	9,589	−708	−7,817	2,028	−7,829	−10,647	*2,330*	*−4,650*
1975	1,044	−508	−2	3,889	−80 (e)	−528	1,569	−3,717	−150	*17,986*	*−682*
1973 1st quarter	366	−151	−225	560		−669	457	−740		*939*	*497*
2nd quarter	232	−179	280	1,035		−736	682	+51		*906*	*−416*
3rd quarter	217	69	−542	825		−14	35	−409		*965*	*101*
4th quarter	326	−211	−206	1,921		−1,060	1,136	−678		*4,346*	*−315*
1974 1st quarter	339	−519	−1,604	2,787		−2,503	479	−2,117		*2,356*	*−3,274*
2nd quarter	−121	−311	−1,861	2,228		−2,433	522	−1,942		*−70*	*−2,377*
3rd quarter	323	−141	−1,927	863		−1,413	554	−1,911		*−2,381*	*−133*
4th quarter	370	−16	−548	3,881		−1,467	473	−1,859		*2,425*	*1,133*
1975 1st quarter	622	−88	−369	2,220		−459	146	1,612		*4,534*	*−925*
2nd quarter	141	45	941	768		142	596	−783		*5,486*	*−300*
3rd quarter	31	−72	−128	−432		859	194	−1,160		*1,795*	*−23*
4th quarter	251	−393	−446	1,368		−1,070	633	−239		*6,172*	*566*
1976 1st quarter	−408		−1,396	1,324		−1,413	822	−502		*2,829*	*−97*
2nd quarter	−30		+700 (e)	607		−1,338	284	−840		*2,094*	*828*
3rd quarter								−1,164			

Source: UK Economic Trends. All others: IMF International Financial Statistics.

Government Publications in Scotland

from

Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 13a Castle Street, Edinburgh EH2 3AR

TABLE 6 Export unit values of manufactures

Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium/ Luxembourg		France		German F.R.		Italy		Netherlands		United Kingdom		*United States*	Japan	
	US$	Bfrs.	US$	frs.	US$	D.M.	US$	lire	US$	Gdrs.	US$	£	US$	US$	Yen
1970	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	*100*	*100*	*100*
1971	101	98	105	105	108	102	106	105	104	101	106	105	*102*	*104*	*101*
1972	112	99	115	105	117	102	114	106	117	104	116	111	*104*	*116*	*99*
1973	137	107	143	114	147	107	126	118	139	107	127	124	*113*	*141*	*107*
1974	171	133	162	140	172	122	154	160	178	132	153	155	*137*	*181*	*147*
1975	185	136	197	152	195	131	181	189	195	136	178	192	*159*	*178*	*147*
1973 1st quarter	122	102	126	110	124	103	119	110	124	105	119	118	*107*	*125*	*100*
2nd quarter	134	105	141	112	141	105	121	115	135	107	129	122	*111*	*136*	*100*
3rd quarter	148	108	153	115	162	106	131	120	148	124	131	127	*114*	*147*	*108*
4th quarter	147	113	152	121	157	109	133	125	152	112	132	133	*120*	*154*	*118*
1974 1st quarter	150	123	141	125	154	114	133	137	154	121	134	141	*127*	*165*	*134*
2nd quarter	173	132	158	139	175	120	148	151	179	130	153	153	*132*	*183*	*142*
3rd quarter	177	137	170	147	175	125	163	171	186	137	159	162	*142*	*185*	*152*
4th quarter	183	138	181	151	183	126	171	181	192	138	165	170	*148*	*190*	*159*
1975 1st quarter	199	139	196	152	203	130	184	188	209	139	178	179	*156*	*192*	*157*
2nd quarter	192	134	208	152	203	130	183	184	205	136	182	188	*159*	*188*	*152*
3rd quarter	176	134	193	151	189	132	179	190	185	134	175	197	*159*	*179*	*148*
4th quarter	172	135	193	154	185	131	177	193	182	134	174	205	*162*	*169*	*143*
1976 1st quarter	177	139			187	132	161	197	186	137	178	214	*166*	*167*	*140*
2nd quarter					190	134					172	229	*168*	*172*	*143*
3rd quarter					196	136					177	242			
% change latest 3 months:															
On previous 3 months	2.9	3.0	Nil	2.0	3.2	1.5	−9.0	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.9	5.7	*1.2*	*3.0*	*3.1*
On a year earlier	−11.1	Nil	6.6	2.0	3.7	3.0	−12.5	4.8	−11.0	−1.4	1.1	22.8	*5.7*	*−8.5*	*−5.9*

(e) estimated.

Source: Dollar value: 'United Nations Monthly Bulletin'. National currency: Dollar values converted at OECD exchange rates as quoted in 'Series A' : UK Department of Trade

TABLE 7 Consumer prices All goods and services

Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium[1]	Luxembourg[1]	Denmark	France	German F.R.	Ireland	Italy	Netherlands	United Kingdom	*United States*	*Japan*
1970	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	*100*	*100*
1971	104.3	104.7	106	105.3	105.3	108.9	104.8	107.5	109.4	*104.3*	*106.1*
1972	110.0	110.1	113	111.7	111.1	118.4	110.8	115.9	117.2	*107.7*	*110.9*
1973	117.7	116.8	123	119.9	118.8	131.8	122.4	125.2	127.9	*114.4*	*123.9*
1974	132.6	128.0	142	136.3	127.1	154.2	146.3	137.2	148.4	*127*	*154.2*
1975	149.5	141.7	156	152.2	134.7	186.4	171.1	151.2	184.4	*138.6*	*172.4*
1975 1st quarter	143.9	136.3	152	147.0	132.0	177.7	164.9	145.8	166.9	*135.0*	*166.4*
2nd quarter	147.7	140.1	156	150.6	134.5	188.5	169.3	149.9	182.7	*137.1*	*172.1*
3rd quarter	151.1	143.1	158	153.9	135.5	187.1	172.6	152.9	190.8	*140.1*	*173.6*
4th quarter	155.4	147.3	156	157.3	136.7	192.2	177.6	156.3	197.3	*142.3*	*177.7*
1976 1st quarter	158.7	151.1	162	161.0	139.1	206.3	186.0	159.0	204.4	*143.7*	*181.3*
2nd quarter	161.7	154.5	168	164.8	141.1	219.1	196.7	164.3	211.9	*145.5*	*187.6*
3rd quarter	164.7	157.0	171	168.6	141.1	222.4	202.0	165.4	216.8	*147.8*	*189.8*
1975 June	148.5	141.1	157	151.7	135.4		170.8	150.4	187.6	*138.1*	*172.4*
July	149.5	142.3	158	152.8	135.4		171.4	151.3	189.5	*139.6*	*172.8*
August	151.0	142.9	158	153.8	135.2	187.1	172.5	152.7	190.6	*140.0*	*172.4*
September	152.3	144.0	159	155.1	135.9		173.9	154.6	192.2	*140.7*	*175.6*
October	154.1	146.2	155	156.3	136.3		175.8	156.0	194.9	*141.5*	*178.5*
November	155.7	147.4	158	157.3	136.7	192.2	177.8	156.4	197.3	*142.4*	*177.3*
December	156.5	148.3	158	158.2	137.1		179.2	156.7	199.7	*143.0*	*177.2*
1976 January	158.0	150.5	159	159.9	138.2		181.1	157.5	202.3	*143.3*	*180.4*
February	158.5	151.3	160	161.0	139.2	206.3	185.1	159.0	204.9	*143.7*	*181.6*
March	159.5	151.6	167	162.4	139.7		188.8	160.5	205.9	*144.0*	*182.3*
April	161.0	153.8	167	163.8	140.6		193.8	163.9	210.0	*144.6*	*187.2*
May	162.2	154.7	169	164.9	141.2	219.1	197.7	164.5	212.3	*145.5*	*187.6*
June	162.4	154.9	169	165.6	141.5		198.6	164.5	213.4	*146.3*	*188.1*
July	163.7	156.1	169	167.2	140.9		199.6	163.7	213.8	*147.1*	*189.2*
August	164.4	157.3	170	168.4	141.4	222.4	201.8	165.4	216.8	*147.8*	*187.6*
September	166.5	157.5	174	170.2	141.4		205.2	167.2	219.7	*148.4*	*192.6*
October	166.8	158.8	176	171.8	141.5		211.2	169.5	223.7	*149.0*	*193.8*
November	167.2 (e)		178 p	173.2 (e)	141.8 (e)		216.1 p	169.7 (e)	226.9 (e)	*149.4* (e)	
December											
% change latest 3 months:											
On previous 3 months	2.0	1.7	3.9	2.8	0.2	1.5	5.4	2.6	4.1	*1.3*	*1.6*
On a year earlier	8.3	9.4	11.9	9.9	3.8	18.9	1.99	8.4	14.7	*5.2*	*9.0*

[1] Excluding rent.

(e) estimated.

Source: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'.

Government Publications in the North

from

Her Majesty's Stationery Office, Brazennose Street, Manchester M60 8AS

TABLE 8 Value of retail sales Current prices, seasonally adjusted

Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium/ Luxem-bourg	Denmark	France[2]	German F.R.[3]	Ireland[4]	Italy[6 7]	Nether-lands	Great Britain[5]	*United States*	*Japan*
1970	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	*100*	*100*
1971	108	108	104	111	111	111	108	109	*109*	*110*
1972	120	119	110	121	126	125	122	122	*119*	*118*
1973	138	134	117	130	148	152	137	139	*134*	*145*
1974	162	147	134	137	168	189	151	160	*143*	*165*
1975	183	167	147	149	199	206	169	191	*155*	*192*
1974 1st quarter	152	144	127	134	158	160	144	149	*138*	*157*
2nd quarter	160	148	131	135	165	166	150	154	*142*	*160*
3rd quarter	166	148	136	139	169	181	156	165	*148*	*170*
4th quarter	170	152	139	138	175	236	155	173	*142*	*173*
1975 1st quarter	175	161	141	146	183	181	164	181	*148*	*186*
2nd quarter	178	164	145	147	192	194	167	190	*153*	*192*
3rd quarter	184	166	147	151	200	192	170	194	*159*	*192*
4th quarter	192	180	154	154	216	264	176	199	*162*	*195*
1976 1st quarter	197	187	150	157	225	209	179	208	*169*	*200*
2nd quarter	202	187	153	157	234	239	186	212	*171*	*202*
3rd quarter		194	157	160				223	*173*	*202*
1975 March	178	160	144	147	183	208	166	181	*147*	*191*
April	178	163	145	148	188	188	165	201	*150*	*191*
May	174	162	144	145	198	203	164	182	*154*	*192*
June	180	167	144	150	189	193	166	187	*155*	*193*
July	179	169	145	149	193	198	168	192	*159*	*193*
August	184	166	147	150	198	166	168	192	*160*	*194*
September	189	163	150	152	208	211	175	196	*158*	*190*
October	191	180	153	154	212	254	175	194	*160*	*197*
November	191	180	154	156	214	213	174	198	*161*	*194*
December	194	177	156	152	226	324	178	204	*165*	*195*
1976 January	196	181	150	155	222	201	176	211	*165*	*197*
February	197	208	148	159	236	197	178	207	*168*	*206*
March	197	172	151	158	218	228	183	206	*170*	*198*
April	200	188	150	156	231	242	185	214	*172*	*200*
May	202	179	156	157	233	235	183	210	*169*	*203*
June	203	194	154	158	238	239		212	*173*	*201*
July	205	193	150	157	222	226		219	*172*	*200*
August	205 (e)	193	159	161	229	211		223	*175*	*205*
September		195	159	164				226	*172*	*199*
October			156					226	*173*	
% change latest 3 months:										
On previous 3 months	2.3	3.6	3.0	2.3	0.9	−4.1	3.6	5.3	*1.2*	Nil
On a year earlier	12.9	16.7	5.3	6.9	18.6	21.4	14.3	16.0	*8.8*	*4.7*

[1] Department and chainstores. [2] Including chainstores. [3] Including indirect taxes. [4] Not seasonally adjusted. [4] Average weekly sales. [5] Excluding motor vehicles.

Source: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'

TABLE 9 Earnings/wages per head in manufacturing

Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium/ Luxem-bourg	Den-mark[1, 2]	France	German F.R.[6] †	Ireland[2]	Italy[7]	Nether-lands[3]	Great Britain	*United States*[4]	*Japan*[5] †
1970	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	*100*	*100*
1971	111	115	110	111	116	112	112	111	*106*	*114*
1972	126	129	121	123	133	124	126	126	*113*	*132*
1973	147	153	138	135	159	154	143	143	*121*	*163*
1974	178	185	162	151	191	189	169	166	*131*	*205*
1975	210	223	185	165	246	239	192	209	*143*	*229*
1973 1st quarter	140	137	129	131	145	137	137	134	*118*	*148*
2nd quarter	144	151	133	134	157	151	140	139	*120*	*155*
3rd quarter	149	160	138	137	164	161	146	144	*122*	*162*
4th quarter	154	168	144	140	168	168	148	150	*124*	*174*
1974 1st quarter	162	173	147	144	172	176	159	147	*126*	*178*
2nd quarter	173	185	155	151	188	184	167	159	*129*	*203*
3rd quarter	184	190	164	156	196	194	173	172	*133*	*211*
4th quarter	192	202	169	159	207	202	174	185	*137*	*215*
1975 1st quarter	201	211	173	159	222	225	184	194	*139*	*224*
2nd quarter	207	223	177	161	241	238	188	202	*141*	*220*
3rd quarter	213	226	187	165	255	245	196	215	*144*	*235*
4th quarter	221	235	190	170	265	249	197	226	*147*	*235*
1976 1st quarter	227	239	195	170	272	256	206	233	*150*	*255*
2nd quarter	232	249		174		277	206	242	*152*	*252*
3rd quarter	237	252		176		307	209		*156*	*260*
% change latest 3 months:										
On previous 3 months	2.2	1.2	2.6	1.2	2.6	10.8	1.5	3.9	*2.6*	*3.2*
On a year earlier	11.3	11.5	12.7	6.7	22.5	25.3	6.6	19.8	*8.3*	*10.6*

† Seasonally adjusted.

[1] Including mining. [2] Earnings. [3] Hourly rates industry: males. [4] Gross hourly earnings per productive worker. [5] Monthly earnings in manufacturing: regular workers. [6] Wages and salaries per employed person in industry, excluding construction, public gas and electricity undertakings. [7] Hourly-rates times average daily hours worked.

Source: All countries 'OECD Main Economic Indicators', except German Federal Republic ('Monatsberichte der Deutschen Bundesbank', Reine 4), Italy ('I.L.O. Yearbook' and 'M.E.I.') and Great Britain ('Department of Employment Gazette' and M.E.I.).

Overseas trade news

PVC-coated fabrics: anti-dumping investigation extended

Secretary of State for Trade Edmund Dell has decided to extend to the German Democratic Republic and East Berlin his department's current anti-dumping investigation into imports of PVC-coated fabrics. The investigation already in hand concerns allegations that these fabrics are being imported from Hungary at prices which constitute dumping and that, as a result, the Brtish industry is suffering material injury.

The investigation may be extended to include other countries.

The original announcement of the investigation was made on 16 March 1976.

Any representations in connection with this investigation, other than from foreign suppliers with whom special arrangements will be made, should be submitted in writing not later than 31 January 1977. Such representations, in summarised form and without attribution to the source, may be passed to the applicants for comment. Those making the representations should stipulate any particular matters which they do not wish to be disclosed.

These representations should be sent to General Division, Department of Trade, Room 348 Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ and trade inquiries should be made to 01-215 3625.

TUC-CBI give new year support to export year

In a joint new year statement supporting Export Year the TUC and CBI say that in 1977 all those engaged in exporting goods and services, both work people and managers, would have a unique opportunity to contribute to Britain's economic recovery. Increasing investment and jobs depended on increasing exports in a big way.

But, the statement continues, Export Year was not just an export promotion drive. Its aim was to make everyone making and selling exportable goods and services more aware of the importance of their work in helping to improve the UK's export earnings. That meant building up in each factory and office a joint understanding of the need to produce goods and services of the highest quality and at competitive prices, to deliver them on time, back up sales with after sales service and a ready supply of spare parts.

Such a joint effort, says the statement, based on full understanding and involvement, could produce many benefits through 1977 and the years to come. It was in this spirit that the TUC and the CBI would do all they could through their members, to push ahead on the export front. It was in this spirit that the CBI and TUC together commended Export Year.

The statement was signed by John Methven, the director-general of the CBI, and Len Murray, the general secretary of the TUC.

Kenya's first commercial vehicle plant opened

President Jomo Kenyatta on the opening tour of Kenya's first commercial vehicle assembly plant – the Leyland Kenya factory at Thika near Nairobi. The £1.3 million plant built by British Leyland in partnership with the Kenyan government and a local company was opened on 14 December. The factory will employ 250 people and produce 3,600 commercial vehicles annually.

Leeds chamber seminar on export documentation

A half-day seminar on systematic documentation, based on the Sitpro (Simplification of International Trade Procedures Board) system of aligned documentation has been organised by the Leeds Chamber of Commerce and Industry and will take place on Thursday 3 February.

The seminar is aimed at shippers, export office managers and senior staff, and delegates need not be members of the chamber. Information on the latest forms of export documentation will be included.

EXPORT YEAR

STILL TIME TO JOIN

EMI, Trust Houses Forte (Hotels), Vickers, Fisons, Commercial Union and Lucas Industries are among the many household names taking part in Export Year. Export Year runs through 1977 so there is still plenty of time to join them and tell your employees about the importance of exports. If your company isn't taking part, and wants to, write to Export Year Office, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1 0ET, or phone 01-215 5180/3393/5773.

The chamber is also organising seven courses – each involving one afternoon a week for five weeks – on export documentation. The lecturers, who are experienced in the export trade, are mostly members of the Institute of Export and other professional bodies.

The courses are intended as introductions for people unfamiliar with export procedures, or as refresher courses. They are designed to prevent mistakes which can be very costly and can lead to the loss of overseas business.

More details can be obtained from Mr C. Wilson, Leeds Chamber of Commerce and Industry, 9 Quebec St, Leeds LS1 2HO, tel. Leeds (0532) 30491.

Eurodata Foundation formed

Seventeen telecommunications organisations, including the British Post Office, have formed a new body to work together to study and meet the needs of Europe's rapidly expanding data-communications market. The organisation is called Eurodata Foundation with head offices in The Hague.

Its creation stems from a massive study in 1972 when the 17 authorities pooled their resources to produce a report on Europe's data-communications needs – the Eurodata Study.

The main role of the foundation is to take over from the consultants of the 1972 Eurodata study the custody and maintenance of the Eurodata database.

Through its ownership and upkeep of the Eurodata database, the foundation will offer to clients – both telecommunications divisions and outside bodies – a range of information services within the field of data communications and related telecommunications. It will also conduct and control market studies for clients.

Cardiff's Canada mission

As part of the increasing programme of overseas missions organised by the Cardiff Chamber of Commerce and Industry, a mission will leave for Canada on 12 June 1977 returning to London on 25 June 1977. The full itinerary will take in Vancouver, Edmonton, Toronto, and Montreal.

Further details can be obtained from Richard Smale, Cardiff Chamber of Commerce and Industry, The Exchange, Mount Stuart Square, Cardiff CF1 6RD. Tel. 0222 21648.

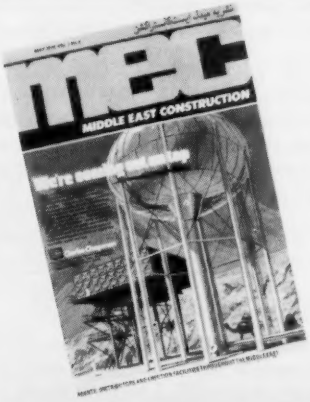
Four British firms at Dakar's second fair

Accompanied by British ambassador John Powell-Jones (left), Senegal's President Léopold Senghor of Senegal meets Peter Arnold and David Spowart of the Wellcome Foundation on the company's stand at the second international trade fair held in Dakar from 3 to 12 December. The Wellcome Foundation was among four British firms at the event : the others were British Caledonian – on a joint stand with the British Tourist Authority – Hawker Siddeley and Lucas.

Successful Merseyside mission to Japan

Over half a million pounds' worth of orders were brought back from Japan after a 12-day trade mission organised by the Merseyside Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The goods bought by the Japanese ranged from costume jewellery, through carpet machinery to boiled sweets.

'The Japanese demand quality, and are prepared to pay for it despite an economic recession,' said Peter Hordley, mission adviser, 'In fact, there seemed to be evidence that the market is moving out of its recession, and is starting to grow again. The Japanese businessmen we met were all interested in branded consumer goods, and in new technologies that could help them to improve their own efficiency.'



MIDDLE EAST CONSTRUCTION

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ENCIRCLE TI 340 ON PAGE 142 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Notices to importers

Issued by the Department of Trade, Import Licensing Branch, Charles House, 375 Kensington High Street, London W14 8QH. Telephone inquiries should be addressed to the number at the end of the notice.

1595: Imports of cotton yarn from Spain in 1977

Notices to importers 1540 and 1559, published in *Trade and Industry* on 23 January and 18 June 1976, gave details of the quotas established for imports in 1976 of certain cotton yarn from Spain. The EEC commission has now authorised the UK to extend its quantitative restriction on this commodity until 31 March 1977, and the quota level for this period is as follows.:

Tariff heading	Description	Quota
55.05	Cotton yarn, not put up for retail sale	724 tonnes

Any traders seeking allocations from this quota should apply by 28 January 1977, on form ILB/A, to Import Licensing Branch at the address shown above. Allocations will be made on the basis of importers' past trade. Applicants should therefore supply a statement of past trade for the years 1973, 1974 and from 1 January to 30 November 1975, supported by a report by a qualified, practising, independent accountant. A pro forma for this purpose is available from Import Licensing Branch, and applications will only be dealt with on receipt of correctly completed forms.

Traders who supplied such statements in response to notice to importers 1529, published in *Trade and Industry* on 2 January 1976, need not do so again, but should state this on their application form. Traders with no past trade may apply for allocation from the quota, but the availability will depend on the level of demand by those with past trade.

Inquiries: Import Licensing Branch, tel. 01-603 4644 ext. 268.

British goods on show at Paris embassy

British Spring '77 fashions, the Silver Jubilee wool textile collection and cheese were the highlights at receptions given recently by the British ambassador Sir Nicholas Henderson and Lady Henderson at the British embassy in Paris.

On the eve of the opening of the Paris salon, du Prêt à Porter the British ambassador, Sir Nicholas Henderson, and Lady Henderson gave a reception for some of Britain's top fashion designers including Roland Klein (Marcel Fenez), John Bates (Jean Varon), Yuki (Rembrandt), Jane Cattlin, Murray Arbeid, Ann Tyrrell (John Marks), Janice Wainwright, Bill Gibb and Roger Saul (Mulberry). Guests were able to admire the spring and summer '77 fashions worn by the designers own mannequins. The Clothing Export Council (CEC) welcomed this opportunity to give a special preview in the British embassy of Britain's presence at the salon to representatives of top Paris fashion houses, fashion importers and the press.

According to the director of the CEC, Mr P. P. Randle, the £3 million worth of orders taken at the salon by British exhibitors was greater than ever before. A high percentage of the orders were from French companies. In particular, elegantly-styled and expensive evening wear now enjoys a great success in France.

In the first 10 months of 1976 fashion exports to France have totalled £20 million.

Mr Randle said, 'We are now making an even greater effort to promote our fashions in France in order to take advantage of our current success.'

Top French couturiers, clothing manufacturers and textile importers as well as representatives of well-known boutiques were also invited by the ambassador to the embassy to see a display of luxury wool textiles from the UK. The reception which took place in the presence of Princess Alexandra and her husband, Angus Ogilvy, was thought to be highly successful by the National Wool Textile Export Corporation (NWTEC) which organised the display.

NWTEC director Mr G. Richardson said later that while it was difficult to assess the impact of this promotional effort as far as orders were concerned, many firm inquiries which could lead to longstanding business had been received. 'Many of the inquiries,' he said, 'were made directly to manufacturers and therefore it is impossible for us to give total figures. We are sure, nevertheless, that the reception at the embassy led to interest which will pay off in trade terms.'

This has been confirmed by the inquries received subsequently at Interstoff which were clearly stimulated by the reception in Paris.

Wool textiles still rank sixth in importance among Britain's exporting industries, with annual earnings estimated this year at nearly £300 million. In recent years France has steadily increased its purchases of British cloth and is now the industry's second largest market in Europe and fifth largest in the world.

Lady Henderson and the Milk Marketing Board also arranged a presentation of British cheese in the residence for a selection of top French cheese specialists.

The presentation was in support of the new arrangements which the Milk Marketing Board have made to distribute and promote British cheese in France. The British cheeses included Stilton, Cheddar, Double Gloucester, Leicester, Sage Derby, Cheshire Blue and Caerphilly and the presentation was attended by about 80 people.

The reception was the start of a promotion of British cheese in a number of shops throughout Paris.

Hints to business men booklets

A revised edition of the booklet on Saudi Arabia has been published in the *Hints to Business men* series. British business men who intend visiting this country on export business can obtain copies of the booklets from Export Services and Promotions Division, Department of Trade, Room DO5, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 7146, or any Regional Office of the Departments of Trade and Industry.

Advertisements are accepted for all booklets in the series which covers over 100 countries. Inquiries about advertising should be addressed to Cheiron Press Ltd., 8/10 Parkway, London NW1 7AD, tel 01-267 1285.

Latest BOTB export conference at Dunstable

A conference aimed at increasing the export earnings of companies in north London, Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire is to be held at the Queensway Hall, Dunstable, on Thursday, 20 January. Organised by the British Overseas Trade Board, the conference will discuss case studies of the overseas selling practices of four local companies. It is the twelfth in the BOTB's series of export dynamics conferences which started in December 1975.

Robert McKenzie, writer and broadcaster, will present the case studies with principals of the firms concerned, and Len Murray, general secretary of the Trades Union Congress, is to be the after-lunch speaker at the conference.

On the day before the conference, on 19 January, Sir Frederick Catherwood, BOTB chairman, and other BOTB members will visit the factories of three of the case study firms and other successful exporters.

BOTB vice-chairman, the Duke of Kent, will visit the other case study firm before going on to the conference on 20 January.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor should be addressed to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 437, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, and *not* to HMSO.

New contacts for British industry in Normandy

Melville Guest, first secretary (commercial) at the British embassy in Paris, reports on the results of a visiting programme by embassy commercial officers in the Le Havre region of France

Firms in northern France are showing increasing interest in developing closer contact with firms in Britain. This is the clear message which emerged from a series of concentrated visiting programmes conducted by commercial officers from the British embassy in Paris during last year in Nantes and St Nazaire, Rouen (March 1976), and, most recently, last autumn in Le Havre. Seventy firms were visited in and around the large port of Le Havre alone.

Le Havre itself is twinned with Southampton which is also its main trading partner. The importance of Le Havre to Anglo-French trade over many years has led to special relationships in certain sectors, in particular transport and commodity dealing. Although the number of UK citizens living in Le Havre has fallen sharply since the last war, trade has continued to increase and Le Havre receives more British goods than any other French port except Dunkirk.

Le Havre now has excellent links with the centre of France by river, road and rail. Nevertheless, in spite of the increasing importance of Le Havre as an international port – the new oil terminal at Antifer will greatly increase the tonnage handled by the port – and the fact that many of Le Havre's older and more important firms have found it necessary to diversify from their traditional activities of shipbuilding and ship repairing, contact with British suppliers has been limited.

Commercial officers found that some firms were interested in contacts with British firms, either to represent them on a distribution or agency basis or to undertake joint ventures to explore other markets. A considerable number of firms was also interested in supply from Britain but had been at a loss to know how to make the necessary contact. The authorities of the Port Autonome du Havre were also visited with the result that a number of British firms has been alerted to the opportunities offered by the investment programmes of the port.

Ronald Arculus, the minister (economic) at the embassy in Paris, gave a lunch at the Le Havre Chamber of Commerce and Industry some six weeks after the visiting week had taken place. This enabled the embassy to invite representatives of all those firms that had shown an interest in some form of contact with British firms in order to follow up the initial contact and to discover what response had been received to the various Export Intelligence Service notices sent out. The 45 guests included the president of the Le Havre Chamber of Commerce, the director of the Port Autonome du Havre, the president of the British Chamber of Commerce France and the secretary-general of the Southampton Chamber of Commerce, in addition to an encouraging number of Le Havre businessmen.

Many of those attending the lunch expressed considerable satisfaction with the nature and speed of the reaction to their original inquiries. British firms had followed up many of the 29 EIS notices sent out and positive links had already been established in a number of cases.

But this is only a beginning: the existing range of contact is obviously inadequate in so close and welcoming a neighbour.

UK businessmen going overseas

British businessmen intending to travel overseas are urged in their own interests to make the earliest possible contact, before going abroad, with the Export Services and Promotions Division of the Department of Trade (at the appropriate regional office for firms outside London, and Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU for firms in London and the South East of England). The department, in co-operation with commercial officers at embassies, high commissions and consulates overseas, is in a position to provide advice when it is required, and to help, where appropriate, in making trade contacts related to the purpose of the visit. Even where a businessman does not require specific assistance it is valuable for him to meet the commercial officers to get up-to-date information about the market. The Department of Trade would therefore welcome receiving notification of any businessmen intending to travel overseas. To enable the overseas commercial officers to be of the greatest assistance to UK visitors the department needs to be able to brief the overseas officers as fully as possible. The range of information required for this purpose includes details of the firm, their products/services and the purpose and background to the visit.

Ronald Arculus (centre), minister (economic) at the British embassy in Paris, with (left) M Le Chevalier, president of the Le Havre Chamber of Commerce, and Jacques Dubois, director of the Port Autonome du Havre. (photo: *Le Havre Libre*)

Overseas trade country data

Australia

Industries Assistance Commission recommendation on woven polyolefin fabrics. The Australian government has accepted a recommendation contained in a letter from the Industries Assistance Commission regarding the duties applying to woven polyolefin fabrics.

As a result of the government's decision, woven polyolefin fabrics falling to item 51.04.5 of the customs tariff will be dutiable at the present rate of 30 per cent, or if higher, 10 cents/m², from 1 January 1977, and not phased down to duty rate of 22.5 per cent as previously announced.

The existing level of duty would continue until the government has considered the commission's forthcoming recommendations on the long-term level of assistance for woven polyolefin fabrics in its report on the reference on sacks, bags and certain polyolefin fabrics. The commission's draft report on this matter was released recently and the final report is expected to be submitted to the Government in the near future.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319.

Domestic refrigerating appliances, etc: draft report released. The Industries Assistance Commission has released a draft of its report on domestic refrigerating appliances, etc, in order that interested parties may have an opportunity to examine and comment on it within the commission's public inquiry system before the report is finally settled.

The commission will hold a further public hearing at 10 am on Monday, 21 February 1977, at the Public Inquiry Room, Industries Assistance Commission, Kings Avenue, Canberra, Australia.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319. Ref. CRE 4/75

Continuation of tariff quota arrangements, and changes in Industries Assistance Commission reporting dates. The Australian government has decided to continue tariff quota arrangements beyond 31 December 1976 on the following goods:

1 Certain polyester and polyamide yarns: this action follows Industries Assistance Commission report on 'certain man-made fibre yarns and fabrics'.
2 Files and rasps, at amended level of 45,000 dozen for six months ending 30 June 1977. This action follows IAC interim report dated 20 October 1976.
3 Brassieres, for period up to two years pending decision on long-term assistance. This immediate action follows IAC report, but a full-scale reference to the IAC on long-term assistance is now made.

It is also announced that a report on the clothing industry is to be made by 30 September 1977 by the Industries Assistance Commission. The reporting dates for IAC reports on footwear and textiles have been deferred until the same date.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 468/469/401.

Further information

In many cases further information on the notices published on these pages is available to British exporters from the Department of Trade. The main branches concerned are: Commercial Relations and Export (CRE) Division, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel: direct dialling); and Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section (OTAR), Export Data Branch, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel: 01-248 5757). In each case, the relevant information source is indicated at the end of the notice by its initials (OTAR or CRE) and, in the case of OTAR, the telephone extension.

Austria

Minimum prices on imported tights. The mandatory minimum price for imported tights introduced on 6 December 1975 and scheduled to remain in force until 31 October 1976 has been extended for a further year and revised minimum prices imposed. Unfinished tights are also now subject to a minimum price. The current minimum prices are as follows:

Type	Price per pair (A Sch)
Packed	
ungussetted	6.60
gussetted	6.90
Unpacked	
ungussetted	5.90
gussetted	6.20
Unfinished	4.70

A supplementary charge is levied on imports of tights invoiced at less than these prices.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 459.

Brazil

Reference prices on tools. A series of Customs Policy Council resolutions established new reference prices on a range of tools. The lists are extensive and hence not published here. Interested exporters may make inquiries by telephone or in writing. The main headings affected are as follows:

82.03.01.00; 82.03.03.00; 82.03.04.00; 82.04.25.00; 82.05.05.00; 82.05.08.02; 82.05.08.03; 82.05.99.00; 82.05.06.00; 82.06.00.00; 90.16.31.00

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 476/474.

Reduction in rate of sole tax on fuels and lubricants. Decree 27 857, of 30 December 1976, reduced the rates of tax on fuels and lubricants by 5 per cent.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 476/474.

Reference price on vehicle lights. Customs Policy Council resolution 2892, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 30 November 1976, established a reference price on lamps with incandescent filaments, for the lighting of vehicles, of any voltage, with a torpedo or pre-focus cap under tariff heading 85.20.10.00 of US$ 0.95 per unit.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 476/474.

Duty exemption on monocomponent insulin. Customs Policy Council resolution 2896, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 7 December 1976, exempted monocomponent insulin, under CCCN (formerly BTN) heading 30.03.20.00, from import duty for a period of six months, dated from the date of publication. The concession lapses, therefore, on 7 June 1977.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 476/474.

Duty reduction on low density polyethylene. Customs Policy Council resolution 2895, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 7 December 1976, reduced the import duty on low density polyethylene, under CCCN (formerly BTN) classification 39.02.02.02, from 45 per cent to 25 per cent for a period of six months dated from the date of publication. The concession lapses, therefore, on 7 June 1977.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 476/474.

Duty exemption on cardiac pacemaker electrodes. Decree-law 1482, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 10 October 1976, exempted

from import duty electrodes for cardiac pacemakers, under CCCN (formerly BTN) classification 85.21.99.00.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 476/474.

Canada

Textile and Clothing Board inquiries. The Textile and Clothing Board has announced an inquiry on the effect on Canadian production of imports of sheets and pillow cases into Canada. This follows receipt by the board of a notice of complaint pursuant to section 8 of the TCB Act alleging that such imports are causing or threatening serious injury to production and employment in Canada.

If it is found that these goods are being imported at such prices, in such quantities and under such conditions as to cause or threaten serious injury, the board may recommend the introduction of special measures of protection.

Interested parties should send eight copies of briefs relating to the inquiry to the secretary of the board by 17 January. Hearings relating to the inquiry will be held if required. At any such hearings, supplementary presentations or arguments will be accepted from organisations or persons who by 17 January have submitted briefs and have given notice of their wish to make oral presentations.

The Textile and Clothing Board is also carrying out separate reviews concerning the following three product groups:

1 Hosiery – Men's and boys' man-made fibre
Men's and boys' nes
Women's and girls' nes
Children's and infants'
2 Work gloves
3 Woven cotton terry towels and towelling

The object is to determine whether it is appropriate to recommend to the Minister of Industry Trade and Commerce, the maintenance, modification or removal of the special measures of protection now in effect that cover imports of these products.

Interested parties are invited to submit views or information relating to these reviews to the secretary of the board as soon as possible. No deadlines are mentioned.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5397.

Colombia

Additions to the free import licence list. Resolutions 51 and 59 add a large number of products to the free import licence list. Parts, or all, of the following tariff headings are affected:

07.01, 07.05, 41.01, 41.02, 41.06, 41.07, 41.08, 70.01, 70.04, 70.06, 70.07, 70.09, 70.10, 70.15, 70.16, 70.17, 70.19, 82.04, 82.10, 82.13, 84.15, 84.18, 84.23, 84.26, 84.29, 84.30, 84.45, 84.47, 84.56, 84.59, 84.61, 85.01, 85.02, 85.19, 90.07, 90.16, 90.17, 90.27, 90.29

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 474/476.

Prior deposit: further information. Resolution 67 of 14 December 1976 has published a list of products which the Junta Monetaria considers to be foodstuffs for direct consumption. Products contained in this list will, therefore, be exempt from the requirement of making the deposit in legal money equivalent to 10 per cent of the value in foreign money of the corresponding exchange permit, in order to obtain the exchange permit with which to make payment for imports.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 474/476.

Ecuador

Minimum values established for whisky. Regulation 510 issued on 10 November 1976 and in force from 1 December 1976 sets out the minimum prices for crates of whisky, the contents of which must not exceed 900cc, on which duty must be paid by the importer. These are as follows:

Whisky up to 5 years old	500 Sucres on the cif value
between 5 and 8 years	800 Sucres on the cif value
between 8 and 12 years	1,000 Sucres on the cif value
over 12 years old	1,200 Sucres on the cif value

A copy of the regulation, in Spanish, is available from OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 474/476.

CRE tel. Direct dialling **OTAR** telephone 01-248 5757
Extensions to **OTAR** numbers are given at the end of each notice

Fiji

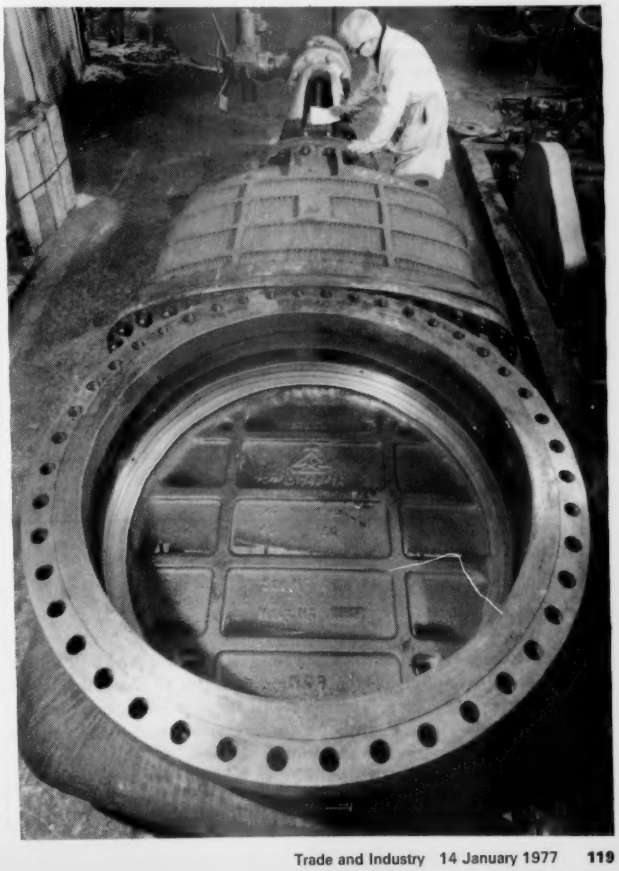
Import duty changes. The Fiji Minister of Finance has announced the Customs Tariff Ordinance (Amendment) (No 6) Order 1976 which came into force on the 19 November. The first schedule to the customs tariff ordinance is amended so that it now reads as follows:

CCCN	Description	Duty		
		Fiscal	Customs	Export
48.14	Writing blocks, envelopes, letter cards, plain postcards, correspondence cards; boxes, pouches, wallets and writing compendiums, of paper or paperboard, containing only an assortment of paper stationery:			

(continued on page 120)

British valves for the world's oilfields

Technology developed in the North Sea oil industry is now being exported by British companies to oil and gas producers in many parts of the world. This 1,219mm steel gate valve intended for work in the oilfields of the Middle East, is one of a series being manufactured by the Triangle Valve Co Ltd of Wigan for petroleum and petrochemical producers throughout the world. The materials used range from special metals designed for tropical and offshore conditions to impact-tested steels suitable for the sub-zero temperatures of Alaska.



CCCN	Description	Duty Fiscal	Customs	Export
48.14.00.01	Plain postcards	40%	7½%	Free
48.14.00.09	Other	25%	7½%	Free
48.18.00.02	Registers and account books; order, invoice, receipt, delivery and similar books and blocks; file covers	40%	7½%	Free
48.18.00.09	Other	25%	7½%	Free
49.07.00.02	Cheque books	40%	7½%	Free
49.07.00.09	Other	25%	7½%	Free
49.09	Picture postcards, Christmas and other picture greeting cards, printed by any process, with or without trimmings:			
49.09.00.01	Picture postcards	40%	7½%	Free
49.09.00.09	Other	25%	7½%	Free
49.11.00.02	Printed calendar backs with or without illustrations; printed matter devoted primarily to advertising (including tourist propaganda) or describing commercial or industrial progress or activity related to places, enterprises or products of Fiji	40%	7½%	Free
49.11.00.09	Other	Free	Free	Free

The following are added to the list of concessions:

CCCN	Description	Duty Fiscal	Customs
124	Printed matter devoted primarily to advertising (including tourist propaganda) or describing commercial or industrial progress or activity related to places, enterprises or products of Fiji, that the Comptroller is satisfied are not being manufactured in Fiji to a specification which he considers reasonable (49.11.00.02)	Free	Free

List of bodies eligible for concession:

	Persons or bodies	Goods	Duty Fiscal	Customs	Conditions	Certificate to be signed by
231	An institution or organisation approved by the Minister of Finance	Miniature flags, badges, buttons, brooches and similar small emblems and such other articles as the Minister may approve	Free	Free	(a) That the goods are imported solely for giving away as awards to members of the approved institution or organisation; or (b) That the goods are of no commercial value and are to be sold solely for the purposes of raising funds for the approved institution or organisation; (c) That the articles are for the exclusive use of the institution or organisation	The person approved by Comptroller

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 469/401/468.

Finland

Minimum import price on knee length stockings. The Finnish authorities have announced that with effect from 27 December 1976 a minimum import price procedure will be applied to knee length stockings made from synthetic continuous man-made fibres (BN 60.03A) for a period of six months.

A recommended import price of Fmks 1.05 has been declared but no levy is envisaged at the moment.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 458/460.

Federal Republic of Germany

Aflatoxins in foodstuffs. An Aflatoxin order of 30 November 1976 was published in *Bundesgesetzblatt* part I, no. 141 of 9 December 1976. The order, which comes into force from 1 March 1977, lays down the maximum levels of aflatoxins which may be used in certain specified food products (mainly nuts and products manufactured therefrom).

Copies of the order, in German, are available from OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 466/288.

Gibraltar

Imports and exports (amendment). *Government Gazette* 1662 of 2 December 1976 appoints 1 January 1977 as the effective date of the following:

Imports and Exports (Amendment) Ordinance 1976 (No 1 of 1976); and
Imports and Exports (Amendment) (No 2) Ordinance 1976 (No 28 of 1976)

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 471/462/472/473.

Irish Republic

New amended customs and excise tariff. A new customs and excise tariff operative on and from 1 January 1977 has been issued.

The main changes occur in the schedule of customs duties and include the following:

1 The rates of duty shown in the OMS, UK and NI columns are reduced by a further 20 per cent of the basic rates in the case of processed fruit and vegetables, live trees, plants, etc. Most of the tariff code numbers of chapters 6, 7, 8 and 20 are affected.
2 As a further step towards the simplification of the tariff, over 450 tariff code numbers providing for national subdivisions have been eliminated, particularly in chapters 22, 23, 53, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62 and 73.

In view of the extensive changes exporters and their agents are strongly advised to confirm in every case the correct tariff code number and unit(s) of quantity, before completing customs documents. By doing so they will help to avoid unnecessary delays in the customs clearance of goods.

Copies of the tariff and supplements are obtainable from the Government Publications Sale Office, GPO Arcade, Dublin 1, or from any bookseller, price £2.50 and 20p each, respectively, postage extra.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 466/467/288.

New Zealand

Customs tariff amendments. The New Zealand government has amended its customs tariff whereby tariff items:

16.04.017;	16.04.019;	27.10.602;	27.10.904;	38.09.009;	39.01.051;
39.01.052;	39.01.059;	39.01.061;	39.01.062;	39.01.069;	39.01.071;
39.01.079;	39.01.111;	39.01.119;	39.01.121;	39.01.129;	39.01.131;
		39.01.139;	39.01.141;	39.01.149;	39.01.151;
39.01.159;	39.01.161;	39.01.169;	39.01.171;	39.01.179;	39.01.199;
39.02.051;	39.02.052;	39.02.059;	39.02.061;	39.02.068;	39.02.069;
39.02.071;	39.02.079;	39.02.091;	39.02.099;	39.02.101;	39.02.109;
39.02.111;	39.02.112;	39.02.119;	39.02.121;	39.02.129;	39.02.131;
39.02.139;	39.02.141;	39.02.149;	39.02.151;	39.02.159;	39.02.199;
39.03.131;	39.03.132;	39.03.139;	39.03.141;	39.03.149;	39.03.151;
39.03.159;	39.03.161;	39.03.169;	39.03.171;	39.03.179;	39.03.181;

CRE Commercial Relations and Exports Divisions
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OTAR Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section
Tel. 01-248 5757 (extension at end of each notice)

39.03.189; 39.03.191; 39.03.199; 39.03.211; 39.03.219; 39.03.221; 39.03.229; 39.03.299; 39.04.021; 39.04.022; 39.04.029; 39.04.031; 39.04.039; 39.04.041; 39.04.049; 39.04.051; 39.04.059; 39.04.099; 39.05.041; 39.05.042; 39.05.049; 39.05.051; 39.05.059; 39.05.061; 39.05.069; 39.05.071; 39.05.079; 39.05.081; 39.05.089; 39.05.091; 39.05.099; 39.05.101; 39.05.109; 39.05.199; 39.06.041; 39.06.042; 39.06.049; 39.06.051; 39.06.052; 39.06.059; 39.06.061; 39.06.069; 39.06.071; 39.06.079; 39.06.081; 39.06.089; 39.06.091; 39.06.099; 39.06.101; 39.06.109; 39.06.199; 39.07.100; 59.12.001; 59.12.002; 70.04.003; 73.15.32

have been revoked and replaced by the following:

Number	Description	Unit	Rates of duty effective on and after 1 July: Year	Normal tariff	British preferential	Other preferential rates of duty
	CHAPTER 16: PREPARATIONS OF MEAT, OF FISH, OF CRUSTACEANS OR MOLLUSCS					
16.04	Prepared or preserved fish, including caviar and caviar substitutes:					
	Fish, preserved:					
	In airtight cans or jars, whether or not with added liquor, oil or sauce:					
16.04.018	Sardines, sild, brisling, saury	kg	1976	Free	Free	Aul Free
16.04.020	Other per 100kg	kg	1976	$4.58	$4.58	Aul Free Can $2.75 per 100kg DC $2.75 per 100kg CPC $2.75 per 100kg
	CHAPTER 27: MINERAL FUELS, MINERAL OILS AND PRODUCTS OF THEIR DISTILLATION; BITUMINOUS SUBSTANCES; MINERAL WAXES					
27.10	Petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals, other than crude; preparations not elsewhere specified or included, containing not less than 70% by weight of petroleum oils or of oils obtained from bituminous minerals, these oils being the basic constituents of the preparations:					
	Lubricating preparations:					
	Oils and other preparations:					
27.10.602	Not exceeding in density 0.860 at 15.0° C, when imported in bulk in ships' bottoms or in containers of a capacity of 4.546 litres or more	1	1976	Free	Free	Aul Free
	Other:					
	Other kinds:					
27.10.904	Not exceeding in density 0.860 at 15.0° C	1	1976	Free	Free	Aul Free
	CHAPTER 38: MISCELLANEOUS CHEMICAL PRODUCTS					
38.09	Wood tar; wood tar oils (other than the composite solvents and thinners falling within heading no. 38.18); wood creosote; wood naphtha; acetone oil:					
38.09.009	Acetone oil per 100 litres per 100 litres	1	1976 1977	$2.60 $2.60	$2.00 $2.60	Aul Free Can $1.10 per 100 litres CPC $1.10 per 100 litres DC Free
	CHAPTER 39: ARTIFICIAL RESINS AND PLASTIC MATERIALS, CELLULOSE ESTERS AND ETHERS; ARTICLES THEREOF					
39.01	Condensation, polycondensation and polyaddition products, whether or not modified or polymerised, and whether or not linear (for example, phenoplasts, aminoplasts, alkyds, polyallyl esters and other unsaturated polyesters, silicones):					
	Monofil, rods and sticks, profile shapes, seamless tubes:					
	Other kinds:					
	Profile shapes:					
39.01.051	Suited for use in building construction, furniture making of for similar purposes	kg	1976	30%	30%	Aul 20% Can 20% CPC 20% DC 20%
	Other kinds:					
39.01.052	As may be determined by the Minister	kg	1976	30%*	30%*	DC 20%**
39.01.059	Other	kg	1976	Free	Free	
	Seamless tubes:					
	Layflat:					

* Or such lower rate of duty as the Minister may in any case direct.
** Plus a duty equal to the amount by which the cif value is less than $4.50 per sq m.

Number	Description	Unit	Rates of duty effective on and after 1 July: Year	Normal tariff	British preferential	Other preferential rates of duty
39.01.063	Printed	kg	1976	40%	40%	Aul 30% Can 30% CPC 30% DC 30%
39.01.068	Other	kg	1976	35%	35%	Aul 25% Can 25% CPC 25% DC 25%
	Other kinds:					
39.01.072	As may be approved by the Minister and under such conditions as he may prescribe	kg	1976	Free†	Free†	
39.01.078	Other	kg	1976	30%	30%	Aul 20% Can 20% CPC 20% DC 20%
	Plates, sheets, strip film and foil					
	Tape:					
	Self-adhesive:					
39.01.112	As may be approved by the Minister and under such conditions as he may prescribe	kg	1976	Free†	Free†	
39.01.118	Other	kg	1976	35%	35%	Aul 25% Can 25% CPC 25% DC 25%
	Other kinds:					
	Printed, embossed or otherwise surface-worked:					
39.01.122	As may be approved by the Minister and under such conditions as he may prescribe	kg	1976	Free†	Free†	
39.01.128	Other	kg	1976	35%	35%	Aul 25% Can 25% CPC 25% DC 25%
	Unprinted and not embossed or otherwise surface-worked:					
39.01.132	As may be determined by the Minister	kg	1976	30%*	30%*	DC 20%*
39.01.138	Other	kg	1976	Free	Free	
	Plates, sheets and strip being textile fabrics coated on both sides with materials of this heading					
39.01.142	As may be determined by the Minister	kg	1976 1977	40%* 40%*	34%* 40%*	Aul 25%* Can 25%* CPC 25%* DC 25%*
39.01.148	Other	kg	1976 1977	9% 5%	3% 5%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free DC Free
	Laminated, fibre reinforced, non pliable:					
39.01.152	Not exceeding 3mm in thickness	m²	1976	20%**	20%**	Aul 10%** Can 10%** CPC 10%** DC 10%**
39.01.158	Other	kg	1976	20%††	20%††	Aul 10%†† Can 10%†† CPC 10%†† DC 10%††
	Other kinds:					
	Printed, embossed or otherwise surface-worked:					
39.01.172	As may be approved by the Minister and under such conditions as he may prescribe	kg	1976	Free†	Free†	
39.01.178	Other	kg	1976	35%	35%	Aul 25% Can 27½% CPC 27½% DC 25%
	Unprinted and not embossed or otherwise surface-worked:					
	Non-pliable:					
39.01.182	As may be determined by the Minister	kg	1976	30%*	30%*	Aul 20%* Can 20%* CPC 20%* DC 20%*
39.01.188	Other	kg	1976	5%	5%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free DC Free

* Or such lower rate of duty as the Minister may in any case direct.
† Or such higher rate of duty as the Minister may in any case decide.
** Plus a duty equal to the amount by which the cif value is less than $4.50 per sq m.
†† Plus a duty equal to the amount by which the cif value is less than $2.75 per kg.

Number	Description	Unit	Rates of duty effective on and after 1 July: Year	Normal tariff	British preferential	Other preferential rates of duty
	Pliable:					
39.01.192	As may be determined by the Minister	kg	1976	30%*	30%*	DC 25%*
39.01.198	Other	kg	1976	Free	Free	
39.01.219	Waste and scrap	kg	1976	Free	Free	
39.02	Polymerisation and copolymerisation products (for example, polyethylene, polytetrahaloethylenes, polyisobutylene, polystyrene, polyvinyl chloride, polyvinyl acetate, polyvinyl chloroacetate and other polyvinyl derivatives, polyacrylic and polymethacrylic derivatives coumarone-indene resins):					
	Profile shapes:					
39.02.051	Suited for use in building construction, furniture making or for similar purposes	kg	1976	30%	30%	Aul 20% Can 20% CPC 20% DC 20%
	Other kinds:					
39.02.052	As may be determined by the Minister	kg	1976	30%*	30%*	DC 25%*
39.02.059	Other	kg	1976	Free	Free	
	Seamless tubes:					
	Layflat:					
39.02.062	Printed	kg	1976	40%	40%	Aul 30% Can 30% CPC 30% DC 30%
39.02.066	Other	kg	1976	35%	35%	Aul 25% Can 25% CPC 25% DC 25%
	Other kinds:					
39.02.072	As may be approved by the Minister and under such conditions as he may prescribe	kg	1976	Free†	Free†	
39.02.078	Other	kg	1976	30%	30%	Aul 20% Can 20% CPC 20% DC 20%
	Plates, sheets, strip, film and foil:					
	Tape:					
	Self-adhesive:					
39.02.115	As may be approved by the Minister and under such conditions as he may prescribe	kg	1976	Free†	Free†	
39.02.118	Other	kg	1976	35%	35%	Aul 25% Can 25% CPC 25% DC 25%
	Other kinds:					
	Printed, embossed or otherwise surface-worked:					
39.02.122	As may be approved by the Minister and under such conditions as he may prescribe	kg	1976	Free†	Free†	
39.02.128	Other	kg	1976	35%	35%	Aul 25% Can 25% CPC 25% DC 25%
	Unprinted and not embossed or otherwise surface-worked:					
39.02.132	Polytetrafluoroethylene tape, unsintered	kg	1976	25%	25%	Aul Free DC 5%
	Other kinds:					
39.02.135	As may be determined by the Minister	kg	1976	30%*	30%*	DC 25%*
39.02.138	Other	kg	1976	Free	Free	
	Plates, sheets and strip being textile fabrics coated on both sides with materials of this heading:					
39.02.142	As may be determined by the Minister	kg	1976 1977	40%* 40%*	34%* 40%*	Aul 25%* Can 25%* CPC 25%* DC 25%*
39.02.148	Other	kg	1976 1977	9% 5%	3% 5%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free DC Free
	Other kinds:					
	Printed, embossed or otherwise surface-worked:					
39.02.172	As may be approved by the Minister and under such conditions as he may prescribe	kg	1976	Free†	Free†	
39.02.178	Other	kg	1976	35%	35%	Aul 25% Can 27½% CPC 27½% DC 25%
	Unprinted and not embossed or otherwise surface-worked:					
	Non-pliable:					
39.02.182	As may be determined by the Minister	kg	1976	30%*	30%*	Aul 20%* Can 20%* CPC 20%* DC 20%*
39.02.188	Other	kg	1976	5%	5%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free DC Free
	Pliable:					
39.02.192	As may be determined by the Minister	kg	1976	30%*	30%*	DC 25%*
39.02.198	Other	kg	1976	Free	Free	
39.02.219	Waste and scrap	kg	1976	Free	Free	
39.03	Regenerated cellulose; cellulose nitrate, cellulose acetate and other cellulose esters, cellulose ethers and other chemical derivatives of cellulose, plasticised or not (for example, collodions, celluloid); vulcanised fibre:					
	Regenerated cellulose; cellulose nitrate, cellulose acetate and other cellulose esters, cellulose ethers and other chemical derivatives of cellulose, plasticised or not (for example, collodions, celluloid):					
	Profile shapes:					
39.03.133	Suited for use in building construction, furniture making or for similar purposes	kg	1976	30%	30%	Aul 20% Can 20% CPC 20% DC 20%
	Other kinds:					
39.03.135	As may be determined by the Minister	kg	1976	30%*	30%*	DC 25%*
39.03.138	Other	kg	1976	Free	Free	
	Seamless tubes:					
39.03.142	As may be determined by the Minister	kg	1976	30%*	30%*	Aul 20%* Can 20%* CPC 20%* DC 20%*
39.03.148	Other	kg	1976	5%	5%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free DC Free
	Plates, sheets, strip, film and foil:					
	Tape:					
	Self-adhesive:					
39.03.152	As may be approved by the Minister and under such conditions as he may prescribe	kg	1976	Free*	Free*	
39.03.158	Other	kg	1976	35%	35%	Aul 25% Can 25% CPC 25% DC 25%
	Other kinds:					
	Printed, embossed or otherwise surface-worked:					
39.03.162	As may be approved by the Minister and under such conditions as he may prescribe	kg	1976	Free†	Free†	
39.03.168	Other	kg	1976	35%	35%	Aul 25% Can 25% CPC 25% DC 25%
	Unprinted and not embossed or otherwise surface-worked:					
39.03.172	As may be determined by the Minister	kg	1976	25%*	25%*	DC 20%*
39.03.178	Other	kg	1976	Free	Free	
	Plates, sheets and strip being textile fabrics coated on both sides with materials of this heading:					
39.03.182	As may be determined by the Minister	kg	1976 1977	40%* 40%*	34%* 40%*	Aul 25%* Can 25%* CPC 25%* DC 25%*

* Or such lower rate of duty as the Minister may in any case direct.
† Or such higher rate of duty as the Minister may in any case decide.

CRE tel. Direct dialling **OTAR** telephone 01-248 5757
Extensions to **OTAR** numbers are given at the end of each notice

Number	Description	Unit	Rates of duty effective on and after 1 July: Year	Normal tariff	British preferential	Other preferential rates of duty
39.03.188	Other	kg	1976	9%	3%	Aul Free
			1977	5%	5%	Can Free
						CPC Free
						DC Free
	Other kinds:					
	Printed, embossed or otherwise surface-worked:					
39.03.192	As may be approved by the Minister and under such conditions as he may prescribe	kg	1976	Free†	Free†	
39.03.198	Other	kg	1976	35%	35%	Aul 25%
						Can 27½%
						CPC 27½%
						DC 25%
	Unprinted and not embossed or otherwise surface-worked:					
39.03.202	As may be determined by the Minister	kg	1976	25%*	25%*	DC 20%*
39.03.208	Other	kg	1976	Free	Free	
39.03.225	Waste and scrap	kg	1976	Free	Free	
39.04	Hardened proteins (for example, hardened casein and hardened gelatin):					
39.04.028	Profile shapes	kg	1976	5%	5%	Aul Free
						DC Free
39.04.038	Tubes	kg	1976	5%	5%	Aul Free
						Can Free
						CPC Free
						DC Free
39.04.048	Sheets and plates	kg	1976	5%	5%	Aul Free
						Can Free
						CPC Free
						DC Free
39.04.098	Waste and scrap	kg	1976	Free	Free	

* Or such lower rate of duty as the Minister may in any case direct.
† Or such higher rate of duty as the Minister may in any case decide.

Further details of amendments to items will be published on the New Zealand customs tariff in *Trade and Industry* next week.

Nigeria

Insurance. The Federal Republic of Nigeria has issued the Insurance Decree 1976, which came into operation on 1 December 1976.

Section 46 of this decree provides that insurance of goods imported into the country shall be made with an insurer registered under the decree, except in certain exceptional circumstances. This section also provides that letters of credit and similar documents in respect of the insured goods should be on a carriage and freight basis only. Fines will be imposed on companies not complying with this Section.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 3064.

Gaming machines. The following information has been received from the British High Commission in Lagos.

The Nigerian Government has banned the use and importation of coin-operated gaming machines in the country from 1 January 1977. Owners and operators of such machines have been given three months in which to dispose of them.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 473/472/471/462.

Norway

Reductions in import duties. On 1 January 1977 duties on certain goods imported into Norway from the community as originally constituted and from the Republic of Ireland were further reduced in accordance with the EEC/Norway free trade agreement. Goods falling under the following CCC numbers (formerly BN no.) are affected:

33.06; 36.01; 36.02; 36.03; ex 39.01; ex 39.02; ex 39.03; ex 39.04; 39.05; 39.06; ex 39.07; 40.09; 40.10; ex 40.11; ex 40.14; ex 48.21; 58.02; ex 59.10; 64.02; 69.11; 69.12; 70.05; 70.06; 70.07; 70.08; ex 70.09; ex 70.13; 70.14; ex 73.17; ex 73.18; ex 73.20; ex 73.38; ex 76.02; ex 76.03; 82.04; 82.07; 82.09; 82.14; 83.01; 83.02; ex 84.15; ex 84.47; 84.61; 85.04; ex 85.12; 85.23; 85.25; 85.26; ex 87.05; 87.09; ex 87.13; ex 90.28; 92.11; ex 94.03; 96.02; 98.01; 98.02

United Kingdom manufactured goods which qualified for duty-free entry into Norway during 1976 will continue to enter duty free during 1977 provided they are accompanied by the correct documentation.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 458/461.

Papua New Guinea

Devaluation. On 29 December 1976, Papua New Guinea devalued the Kina by 1.86 per cent. This devaluation is to keep the Kina in step with movements of the Australian dollar.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5321. Ref. CRE 36488

Peru

Import licences. Supreme decree 037-76-CO/CE of 14 December 1976 approves and brings into force Decree Law 21390 of January 1976 which stated that all goods required import licences before importation would be permitted.

The entry into force of Decree Law 21390 had been delayed by Decree Law 21466 (see *Trade and Industry*, 10 September 1976).

A copy of the Supreme decree, in Spanish, is available from OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 474/476.

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South Africa

Tariff application. Customs Tariff Application List no. 1/77, published in the South African *Government Gazette* of 7 January 1977 contains an application to the Board of Trade and Industries for increase in duty on:

1 Pallet trucks not mechanically propelled, classifiable under tariff subheading 87.14.90,
2 Hardboard, classifiable under tariff subheading 48.09.10,
3 Ignition coils, classifiable under tariff heading 85.08,
4 Wrought plates, sheets, strip and foil of copper, classifiable under tariff headings 74.04 and 74.05.

Those British trade organisations thought to be interested in the application are being informed. Any British firm affected which wishes to make representations to the South African Board of Trade and Industries and belongs to a trade organisation should, therefore, first contact its own trade association.

If any firm proposes to make independent representations to the South African authorities and requires further information concerning the application, it should address inquiries to CRE 01-215 5274.

Import control and permit issues. The Minister of Economic Affairs, in announcing details of the import control arrangements for 1977, said that the import control policy for 1977 was to be maintained substantially along the lines which applied during 1976. The details were published in the South African *Government Gazette* of 29 November 1976.

The minister also announced that an advance first-round allocation of import permits for 1977, equivalent to 40 per cent of the total permits issued in 1976, would be granted for the following classes or categories of goods:

1 consumer goods
2 clothing
3 confectionery
4 alcoholic beverages including whisky

The minister stated that consideration would be given in May 1977 to a possible further permit allocation.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 471/472/473/462.

Spain

Home compensation tax reduction on stainless steel. The Spanish *State Gazette* of 31 December 1976, published royal decree 2995/1976 reducing temporarily to 6.5 per cent the home compensation tax to be paid on the importation of stainless steel hot rolled coils of 3mm or more in thickness, tariff heading 73.15.E.4.a.

The reduction was for the period from 23 to 31 December 1976.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 462/471/472/473.

Home compensation tax on coal and mineral ore. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 28 December 1976, published royal decrees 2957 and 2958/1976 announcing a temporary concessional rate of 1.5 per cent home compensation tax levy for a three months period from 26 November 1976 on the following items:

Tariff no	Description
26.01.A.2	Dry iron ore containing 62% or more of iron
27.01.A	Coal suitable for coking, either as imported or mixed with other grades of coal, imported by iron and steel coking plants for their own use in steel manufacture within the limits of the quota established for 1976
27.01.A	Coal imported for the production of electrical power within the 500,000 metric tonne duty-free quota established for 1976

The above decrees will be in force from 28 December 1976.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 462/471/472/473.

Customs tariff modifications. The Spanish *State Gazette* of 1 January 1977, published royal decree 3004/1976 of the Ministry of Commerce modifying the Spanish customs tariff sub-heading to read as follows:

Tariff no	Description	Import duty
38.19.C	Compound catalysts (for homogenous catalysis)	Free

The modification is valid from 1 January 1977.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 426/471/472/473.

Fish, crustaceans and molluscs: import regulations. The Spanish *State Gazette* of 24 December 1976 published an order of the Ministry of Commerce modifying the set of rules covering the importation of fish, crustaceans and molluscs. Article 2 of the rules will read as follows:

Article 2 – All the products included under chapter three of the Brussels Nomenclature could only be imported, with prior authorisation of the Ministry of Commerce, in the necessary amount to satisfy the requirements of the population, as complimentary to the supply of fish caught by our fishing fleet in free seas.

The same *State Gazette* published an order of the Ministry of Commerce including in the bilateral trade arrangement the whole of chapter 3 of the tariff.

The above orders came into force on the 24 December 1976.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 462/471/472/473.

Import duty suspension on iron and steel. The Spanish *State Gazette* has published royal decrees 2920/1976 and 2991/1976 of the Ministry of Commerce extending until 31 December 1976 the suspension of import duty levied on the duty-free import quota for tin plate and tinned steel strip, tariff numbers 73.12.D.1 and 73.13.D.3.a, and cold rolled steel sheets and plates suitable for the manufacture of bathtubs, tariff numbers 73.13.D.2.b and 73.13.D.2.c.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 462/471/472/473.

Regulatory and compensatory taxes on foodstuffs. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 24 December 1976, published royal decree 2939/1976 of the Ministry of Commerce establishing that all food products imported free of import duties in the Peninsula and Balearic Islands will also be free from the variable regulatory and compensatory taxes.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 462/471/472/473.

United States

Carbonated soft drink bottles. The *Federal Register*, 16 December 1976, published a notice of a recommended standard by the National Bureau of Standards to establish manufacturing requirements for conventional glass bottles designed as containers for carbonated soft drinks.

Copies of the standard may be obtained from the Standards Development Services Section, National Bureau of Standards, Washington DC 20234, and written comments should be sent to the above address by 31 January.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

Imports of speciality steels under quota. Further to the notice which appeared in *Trade and Industry* on 31 December 1976, the following table, derived from statistics made available by the US Customs Service, shows the products which are subject to quotas, the United States quotas on imports from the EEC for the 12 months 14 June 1976 to 13 June 1977, and United States imports on the products concerned from the EEC during this period, as at 31 December 1976.

Product	US import quotas for 12 months 14 June 1976 to 13 June 1977 (pounds weight)	US imports during this period as at 31 December 1976 (pounds weight)
Sheet and strips of stainless steel (item 923.20)	31,600,000	21,575,331
Plates of stainless steel (item 923.21)	5,800,000	5,103,740
Bars of stainless steel (item 923.22)	5,000,000	430,369
Wire rods of stainless steel (item 923.23)	14,800,000	Quota filled
Bearing steel (item 923.25)	7,000,000	1,511,096
Alloy tool steel (item 923.26)	6,800,000	4,700,282

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5629.

CRE tel. Direct dialling **OTAR** telephone 01-248 5757
Extensions to **OTAR** numbers are given at the end of each notice

Overseas trade export successes

Brazilian oil platform order won by Scottish firm

One of Scotland's oil platform production companies, McDermott (Scotland), Inverness, has successfully concluded negotiations with Petrobras, the Brazilian state-owned oil company, for a steel production jacket.

The Scottish firm announced that it has received a letter of intent from Petrobras for the jacket which is to be installed in the Namorado oil field off the coast of Brazil at a depth of 520 ft.

The actual contract will probably be signed shortly and the cost, although not yet announced, is expected to be around £14 million. The jacket itself is likely to cost some £9 million and the remaining £5 million will cover towage costs and orders for accessories such as modules.

McDermott's will have to tow the completed structure – the first jacket to be exported from Britain – across the Atlantic. In terms of distance, the only comparable achievement was in 1975 when the Japanese towed a gas jacket across the Pacific to New Zealand.

The jacket, which is expected to be delivered in early 1978, will join two other platforms being constructed in Brazil by a European/Brazilian joint venture.

Dr Dickson Mabon, Minister of State at the Department of Energy, said, 'this order shows that the UK can get into the world offshore market if it continues to prove itself competitive in the North Sea, and if it goes out and fights hard for orders.

'I hope and expect to see more companies moving into export markets around the world and they can count on my support and the continuing efforts of the offshore supplies office.'

Chile orders British mine roof supports

Gullick Dobson International of Wigan, manufacturer of powered mine roof supports has won an order worth £127,000 for single hydraulic props from the Empresa Nacional de Carbon (SA) mine based in Lota, Chile.

The order consists of 2,000 hydraulic single props rated at 25 tonnes. This is the company's first Chilean order which, it believes, will open the way for further orders from the rapidly developing mining industries throughout the continent.

Gullick Dobson International who already exports to most of the world's mining areas, has increased its marketing aims in the South American sector.

The Gullick Dobson hydraulic single props are in extensive use in several main areas of world mining. Produced in a range of sizes from 584mm to 2,489mm, the props have a proven record of reliability and dependable service.

Gullick Dobson, who is currently taking part in Export Year organised by the British Overseas Trade Board, is a member of the Dobson Park Industries Group.

Industrial tractor order for Colombia

Forty-eight RM40 industrial tractors ordered by Puertos de Colombia, the Colombian port authority, were shipped in December by Reliance-Mercury Ltd of Halifax, Yorkshire. The RM40s, which together constitute an order valued at approximately £300,000, have a drawbar pull of 1,814kg each and are powered by diesel engines. They are intended for use at the ports of Santa Marta, Buenaventura and Barranquilla.

The RM40 is one of a comprehensive range of 10 airtugs and industrial tractors marketed by Reliance-Mercury, 80 per cent of whose output is exported throughout the world.

Jute factory contract is UK first in Vietnam

James Mackie and Sons, Ltd of Belfast in association with J. C. Gilbert Ltd, a subsidiary of United City Merchants Ltd, has signed a contract with Technoimport, the state trading corporation of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam for the supply of a complete jute factory.

This is the first major contract between the UK and Vietnam, and is worth £5.2 million. The contract was signed in Hanoi in the presence of British ambassador to Vietnam, Robert Tesh.

The factory building will be constructed by Arcon Building Exports Ltd, a member of the Taylor Woodrow Group.

China orders image analysers

In spite of an earth tremor which shook the exhibition hall during the British broadcasting, radar and instrumentation exhibition in Peking, Cambridge Instruments secured one of the largest ever orders for their Quantimet 720 image analyser. The order, which is worth over £367,000, is for four instruments and was the largest order placed in the instruments section of the exhibition which also covered broadcasting and radar.

Three of the four instruments will be used in the steel industry for quality control and research and the fourth, one of Cambridge's most advanced, computerised image analysers, will be used in a research institute in Shanghai for research into the structure of a wide range of materials.

The first Quantimet to be sold to China was installed just over a year ago and – the company says – it was the success of this installation which encouraged the Chinese to buy the new instruments.

Bahrain orders 100 ft Simon firefighter

A Simon snorkel firefighting and rescue appliance with a vertical reach of 100 ft has been ordered by the Crown Agents for the Municipality of Bahrain Fire Brigade.

This is the largest snorkel in the range manufactured by Simon Engineering Dudley Ltd, of the west Midlands. The snorkel is of triple boom construction which gives a horizontal extension of 50 ft, enabling the fireman operator to reach over and down the far side of overhead obstructions such as wires, parapets and roofs. It will rescue five people at one time and will throw 500 gallons of water a minute. The unit which costs £100,000 will be mounted on a Mercedes L2624 chassis with fire engineering bodywork by HCB/Angus.

It will be used in Manama where there has been a rapid increase in the number of hotels and other buildings of up to 10 storeys high. The chief fire officer of Bahrain, Brian Turner, already has an 85-ft Simon Snorkel in service. Similar machines are in operation in Kuwait, Qatar, Abu Dhabi, Das Island, Sharjah and the Muscat-Sultanate of Oman.

Consortium wins £4.5 million Dubai cable contract

A consortium of British cable manufacturers consisting of AEI Cables, BICC, Delta Enfield and Pirelli General, has recently obtained a large export order for the Middle East. The contract, worth over £4.5 million is for the Dubai Electricity Company in the United

Arab Emirates, and consists of 150km of 33kV cable, together with pilot and telephone cables and all necessary joints and accessories.

The consortium – led by AEI Cables – was formed because the Dubai Electricity Company wanted urgent delivery of the cables. The first 25 per cent had to be shipped within eight weeks of placing the order and completed in the following three months. To meet the tight delivery schedules the four UK manufacturers decided to pool their resources and the first cables were despatched within six weeks of placing the order.

Tractors head Leyland's return to Middle-East

Leyland Tractors have won the first major order in the Middle East since British Leyland's products were removed from the Arab boycott last year.

One hundred tractors are to be supplied to Egypt within the next year to a new Leyland tractors distributor there, Tanta Engineering. The first 12 tractors in the order are now in Egypt or being shipped there. Thirty more are scheduled to be delivered shortly and the first year total of more than £500,000 is expected to be followed by orders for 200 tractors a year within three years.

Tanta Engineering currently sells a wide range of agricultural machinery in Egypt from three depots at Cario, Tanta and Desouke. The 72h.p. type 272 tractor which forms the bulk of the new order will be used by farmers, particularly those in the cotton industry.

Tanta employees are to visit the UK for service training at the Leyland Truck and Bus Bathgate plant in Scotland where Leyland tractors are built.

Mobile workshops for Saudi Arabia

Massey Coldshield of Market Weighton, part of UAC International, has completed an order for five mobile workshop complexes for Dallah Establishment, a large Saudi group specialising in service and maintenance.

The contract, valued at over £500,000, was signed in February 1976 and the first complex was shipped in early November. The last of the five will arrive in Jeddah this month.

Each complex is made up of a 40ft workshop semi-trailer coupled to a Mercedes 1926 tractor, a stores recovery vehicle based on a Mercedes 1926 four-wheel drive chassis and a small lubrication trailer.

The workshop complexes are to be used by the Public Security Authority throughout Saudi Arabia to keep their vast fleet of cars and trucks operational, in areas where static service facilities are absent. They are totally self-contained, carrying fuel and water, generating their own electricity with three 15kVA generators and manufacturing their own distilled water for use in battery repairs.

In addition to working space inside the vehicles, which are fully air-conditioned, there is also 800 sq ft of covered working space along-side the workshop semi-trailer provided by a large awning.

PAC keeps Middle East computers cool

Precision Air Control of Edenbridge has successfully negotiated two further contracts in the Middle East. The first, valued at £28,000, is for the supply of specialised close control air conditioning equipment required for the new National Computing Centre in Baghdad, Iraq.

The second is for the supply of close control air conditioning equipment and environmental services for the Abu Dhabi head office of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International. This order, worth £35,000, will be PAC's second computer installation for BCCI in Abu Dhabi in the last six months.

Iraq coldstore contract for Dexion

Dexion Ltd, the UK based international storage and materials handling engineers, have won a contract worth nearly £1 million for the equipping of a major coldstore complex in Iraq.

This contract is the latest in a series of Dexion installations built recently in coldstores in the UK and Europe. In Iraq the contract consists substantially of Dexion Pallet Glidestock, a live storage system which ensures automatic stock rotation and, for added protection in sub-zero temperatures, all the storage equipment will be galvanised.

Yugoslav order for UK tyre production equipment

In the face of fierce competition from Germany, Czechoslovakia and Japan, a British company have secured a large order for the supply of tyre production equipment to Yugoslavia.

The £2 million contract has been won by Farrel Bridge Ltd, the Rochdale-based firm of engineers for the plastics and rubber processing industry. They will supply plant and equipment for the production of tractor tyres for Rekord-Rakovica of Belgrade.

The equipment to be supplied includes six complete tyre building machines, a 10 in cold feed extruder (thought to be the largest of its type in the world) and an 8 in cold feed tube extrusion line.

As main contractors, Farrel Bridge will also supervise the installation of two 85 in Bagomatic tyre curing presses – supplied by Francis Shaw Ltd, of Manchester and the weighing and feed equipment for the plant, manufactured by Howe Richardson Scale Ltd, of Nottingham. Farrel Bridge are also responsible for all the ancillary materials handling services.

USSR milling machine contract

Leicester-based milling machine manufacturer Adcock-Shipley Textron has won an order worth £273,000 from the USSR for 27 various types of Bridgeport copy milling machines and an option for a further 10 machines. The contract was placed by V/O Stanko Import of Moscow.

A further order for six Bridgeport copy milling machines was completed when delivery was made in January 1976 to the Russian automobile industry.

The mobile workshops consist of a 40 ft semi-trailer with additional working area shaded by an awning, a lubrication trailer (extreme right) and a stores recovery vehicle (right background).

Plessey leads ground station consortium

Plessey Radar, of Addlestone, is leading a consortium of seven companies drawn from five European countries to provide a ground-station in Spain for a new orbiting ultraviolet astronomical observatory.

The project, known as the International Ultraviolet Explorer (IUE), is sponsored jointly by the European Space Agency (ESA), the Goddard Space Flight Centre (part of Nasa) and Britain's Science Research Council. The ground-station is to be located at Villafranca del Castillo, near Madrid.

ESA has the responsibility for the total turnkey operation, which includes the procurement of all associated hardware, while the civil systems unit of Plessey Radar has the responsibility as prime contractor for the overall ground station integration and project management.

Plessey Radar will supply telecommand software, monitor and control hardware, main consoles and star identification equipment. The monitor and control sub-system, manufactured by Plessey Radar's Liverpool factory, is similar to the equipment already installed in the Odenwald, West Germany, for operation with the Geos and Meteosat ground stations.

. . . and supplies landing aid for Oslo airport

Plessey Navaids – part of Plessey Electronic Systems – has obtained an order worth nearly £100,000 to install a Plan 50 Doppler VHF omni-range (DVOR) equipment in Norway.

This is the first sale of a British DVOR to Scandinavia and will be the first DVOR to be installed in Norway. The equipment will be set up at Drammen on the outskirts of Oslo and will be used as an approach aid to Oslo Airport.

This initial order from the Norwegian aviation authority follows a thorough design study of competing equipment. The spectacular terrain of Norway provides ample opportunity for the Plan 50 DVOR to demonstrate its advantages over conventional VORs in terms of ease of siting, accuracy and signal integrity.

The equipment will be installed in a specially-designed structure which will both raise the counterpoise above the level of the surrounding trees while blending in with the local architecture.

Coaster contract for UK firm

Prompt service in delivering a hand-made sample has won the largest export order ever placed with a north-east England manufacturer of place mats and coasters. Celluware Ltd of Consett has received an order for 3 million coasters worth £250,000 from the West German producers of sparkling wine, Johannes Carstens KG, of Heidelberg.

The coasters will be produced over a period of three years with the first consignment of 80,000 due for despatch in February 1977. The two designs chosen feature seventeenth century fashion. They will be distributed to 500,000 families in Germany. A tear-off label on Johannes Carstens' wine bottles invites the purchaser to complete details of their name, address and date of birth. These details are fed into a computer and the customer will receive two coasters each year for three years on his birthday. Different designs will be used in subsequent years.

Telecine exports average one every 14 working days

With the placing of a new Finnish contract, export sales of the Marconi colour telecine have reached 75 – an average of one every 14 working days since the introduction of the equipment.

Under the terms of the new contract, Marconi Communication Systems, a GEC-Marconi Electronics company, is to supply one telecine with automatic options to the Finnish television station Oy Mainos-TV-Reklam Ab (MTV) in Helsinki.

MTV is Finland's commercial television station. In addition to conventional broadcasting it is heavily involved in the manufacture of audio-cassettes and owns one of Finland's largest private film processing plants. The new telecine, which is scheduled for delivery by May 1977, will be used both for broadcasting and for film to tape transfer in connection with the video-cassette market.

The B3404 telecine system, which last year won for Marconi a Queen's Award to Industry for technological achievement, was the first to be designed specifically for the television industry, all previous telecines having been derived from cinema projection equipment. Since entering full scale production its total sales have exceeded £5 million, and it is currently in use or on order in Australia, Barbados, Canada, Egypt, Finland, France, Iran, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Nigeria, Thailand, the United Kingdom, the United States, the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia.

Machine tools for Romania

Eight chucking automatic lathes, worth £250,000 have been sold to Romania by Matrix-Churchill International, the export sales and marketing company within the TI Machine Division.

The Romanians have bought four Churchill type CA9/10 machines and four CA9/16, which will be used for making components in the tractor industry.

The latest orders follow on from the company's participation at the highly successful Bucharest internatioal trade fair where orders worth £300,000 were also obtained.

The new contracts, which were signed earlier this month, bring the total orders received this year from Romania to £1.5 million.

The machines will be built at the Blaydon-on-Tyne factory of Charles Churchill – part of the TI Machine Division and delivery is scheduled for the first quarter of 1977.

Second high-speed label cutter for Belgian printers

Illochroma of Belgium, the largest web-fed printer of labels in Western Europe, has just purchased its second 1700 cut-to-register sheeter from Strachan Henshaw of Bristol. The company has a throughput of 50 million labels per day. This will be the sixth cut-to-register sheeter to go into Illochroma's Brussels factory. For many years the company has been operating four 1300 high-speed cutters of this type which were specially developed by Strachan Henshaw for its particular method of manufacture.

The Strachan Henshaw cutter/sorters can produce sheets cut from the pre-printed webs and maintain an accuracy to within 0.20mm of the pre-print register mark at speeds up to 200m/min.

Scottish firm wins £5m dredging order

Alluvial Dredges Ltd, of Paisley, specialists in the design and construction of dredges for the recovery of tin, gold and diamonds, has been awarded an order worth about £5 million from Ghana.

The order is for the supply of two dredges designed and equipped for the recovery of gold. This contract is the second to be placed by State Gold Mining Corporation of Ghana as part of its long-term plan to revitalise its gold 'placer' operations.

The addition of these two new dredges to the corporation's existing dredging fleet will provide a substantial increase in production.

The dredges will incorporate the very latest in electronic control equipment, together with mineral recovery systems developed by Alluvial Dredges Ltd which provides the final recovery of gold on a continuous basis.

British consortium wins sugar study contract

The Sugar Development Corporation, on behalf of the United Republic of Tanzania, has awarded a contract to a consortium of Booker Agriculture International and Tate and Lyle Technical Services to study the sugar industry of Tanzania, prepare a development programme for the industry until 1990 and complete investment proposals for the first stages of the plan.

Statistics

The economy: selected indicators

Series are seasonally adjusted except where shown otherwise

	Gross domestic product (average estimate)	Consumers' expenditure	Fixed capital expenditure			Changes in stocks				Balance of payments		
			Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Distributive and service industries excl. shipping	Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Wholesalers	of which: Retailers	Current balance	Visible balance	Invisible balance
	at 1970 prices		at 1970 prices			at 1970 prices				at current prices		
Base of index Series in Stock level at end-1975	1970	£ million	£ million			£ million 18,209	10,399	1,807	1,976	£ million		
1970	100	31,644	9,453	2,130	1,799	442	325	68	−14	733	−25	758
1971	102	32,505	9,681	1,991	1,930	99	−148	52	22	1,084	280	804
1972	104	34,402	9,870	1,739	2,071	39	−145	48	15	154	−702	856
1973	110	35,935	10,279	1,872	2,362	1,127	404	102	382	−736	−2,334	1,598
1974	110	35,612	10,087	2,024	2,251	604	666	81	−111	−3,347	−5,220	1,873
1975	108	35,374	9,967	1,737	1,964	−699	−392	−111	−23	−1,673	−3,204	1,531
1973 4th qtr	110	8,986	2,584	467	615	197	91	32	47	−395	−949	554
1974 1st qtr	106	8,853	2,594	510	591	−105	−21	18	−38	−822	−1,288	466
2nd qtr.	111	8,814	2,436	502	562	321	197	43	19	−858	−1,355	497
3rd qtr.	112	8,956	2,476	501	548	330	358	3	−39	−763	−1,242	479
4th qtr.	111	8,989	2,581	511	550	58	133	17	−53	−904	−1,335	431
1975 1st qtr.	110	8,989	2,533	471	497	−126	18	−31	−38	−452	−852	400
2nd qtr.	108	8,851	2,460	444	495	−269	−105	−54	−66	−366	−681	315
3rd qtr.	107	8,776	2,528	416	496	−214	−234	−29	38	−561	−989	428
4th qtr.	108	8,758	2,446	406	476	−90	−70	4	43	−294	−682	388
1976 1st qtr.	109	8,878	2,427	402	460	38	31	23	12	−39	−473	434
2nd qtr.	108	8,807	2,343	408	474	−118	−115	−22	−55	−553	−1,040	487
3rd qtr.	108 p	8,899 p	2,444	411	472	−27	5	3	22	−734	−1,214	480
% change last 2 qtrs. on prev. 2 qtrs.	0.0	+0.4	−1.8	+1.4	+1.1							
on a year earlier	+1.3	+0.4	−4.0	−4.8	−4.5							

	Industrial production		Personal expenditure		Prices and costs (NOT seasonally adjusted)					Labour (UK)				Visible Trade (Volume)	
	Total all industries	Total manufacturing industries	Retail sales	Cars: new registrations	Retail prices	% increase on a year earlier	Wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: basic materials and fuel used	Wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: manufactured products: home sales	Basic hourly wage rates of manual workers (all industries and services)	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: mid-month count	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: % of total employees	Unfilled vacancies for adults: mid-month count		Export	Import
	at 1970 prices		at 1971 prices	monthly averages			On a balance of payments basis							at 1970 prices	
Base of index £m in base year Series in	1970	1970	1971 15,895	thousands	Jan. 1974		1970	1970	July 1972	thousands		thousands		1970 7,907	1970 7,932
1971	100.5	99.7	100.0	108.5	153.4†	9.4	104.6	109.0	88.9	775.8	3.4	130.9		106.7	104.2
1972	102.7	102.4	105.8	138.6	164.3†	7.1	109.2	114.8	101.4	854.9	3.7	147.3		106.6	116.3
1973	110.3	110.0	110.7	137.1	179.4†	9.2	144.5	123.2	115.6	611.0	2.6	307.0		121.8	133.9
1974	106.4	108.2	109.9	102.8	108.5	16.0	215.3	152.0	138.7	599.5ø	2.6ø	302.2ø		130.1	135.2
1975	101.2	101.7	107.9	97.2	134.8	24.2	235.4	188.7	179.8	929.0	3.9	148.2ø		124.9	125.6
1974 3rd qtr.	108.2	109.9	111.2	107	110.2	17.0	212.9	156.1	144.0	613.7	2.6	308.7		133.4	136.4
4th qtr.	104.9	106.0	111.3	97	115.1	18.2	222.1	164.9	153.5	..	..	..		126.5	133.0
1975 1st qtr.	104.7	106.1	111.3	108	122.0	20.3	220.9	176.0	163.6	737.8	3.1	..		128.9	125.4
2nd qtr.	100.3	100.5	108.9	94	133.6	24.3	225.6	186.3	176.3	847.4	3.6	164.4		122.6	122.2
3rd qtr.	99.6	99.7	105.5	103	139.4	26.6	239.3	193.4	185.5	1,000.0	4.2	133.6		120.0	127.4
4th qtr.	100.4	100.4	105.8	84	144.2	25.3	256.1	199.1	193.8	1,132.1	4.8	113.6		128.3	127.2
1976 1st qtr.	101.9	101.8	107.3	106	149.4	22.5	266.5	206.9	205.5	1,223.2	5.2	115.5		131.6	124.0
2nd qtr.	102.1	103.2	106.7	106	154.9	16.0	292.6	214.4	212.8	1,246.5	5.3	119.6		137.1	137.1
3rd qtr.	101.6	102.6	108.7	97	158.5	13.7	306.8	223.2	218.6	1,307.5	5.5	124.7		132.8	137.2
1975 Nov.	100.7	100.9	105.2	81	144.2	25.2	256.7	198.9	195.6	1,133.0	4.8	111.8		123.4	128.0
Dec.	99.8	99.5	107.0	87	146.0	24.9	259.5	201.5	198.2	1,174.6	5.0	110.1		130.9	124.7
1976 Jan.	101.2	101.7	109.8	115	147.9	23.4	261.5	204.8	202.1	1,210.5	5.1	111.1		131.5	125.1
Feb.	102.5	102.0	107.1	101	149.8	22.9	263.9	207.3	206.4	1,232.4	5.2	113.5		128.4	127.0
Mar.	102.0	101.8	105.5	101	150.6	21.2	274.2	208.6	207.9	1,226.6	5.2	122.0		134.9	119.9
Apr.	102.1	102.9	108.5	118	153.5	18.9	286.3	211.5	210.1	1,233.7	5.2	123.9		134.8	134.0
May	104.3	106.1	105.7	112	155.2	15.4	292.0	214.8	211.7	1,250.0	5.3	120.6		138.2	139.7
June	100.0	100.4	106.1	88	156.0	13.8	299.6	217.0	216.6	1,255.7	5.3	114.3		138.4	137.7
July	101.7	103.0	108.3	87	156.3	12.9	302.0	219.8	218.5	1,294.6	5.5	117.6		129.8	140.0
Aug.	100.8	101.7	108.9	115	158.5	13.8	304.0	223.4	218.6	1,309.4	5.6	127.5		132.1	131.4
Sept.	102.4	103.2	108.8	88	160.6	14.3	314.4	226.3	218.7	1,318.6	5.6	129.0		136.7	140.1
Oct.	102.5	103.3	107.3	104	163.5	14.7	327.7	230.0	218.7 p	1,305.4	5.5	126.2 p		140.1	142.6
Nov.			109.3	111	165.8	15.0	331.8 p	234.4 p		..	..	..		136.7 p	142.1
Dec.							330.7 p	237.2 p		1,330.0	5.6 pe	..			
% change latest 3 months on prev. 3 months	−0.1	−0.4	+0.8	+4.5	+4.1		+7.6	+4.8	+1.4	..		+8.6		+3	+4
on a year earlier	+2.1	+2.9	+2.9	+5.9	+14.7		+28.9	+17.4	+17.3	..		−0.8		+10	+12

p Provisional pe Preliminary estimate † Base of index Jan. 1962 = 100 .. not available ø Average of 11 months

Inquiries: 01-215 3453

Industry's investment intentions for 1977 and 1978

Forms for the Department of Industry's latest survey of investment intentions were despatched at the end of October and the forecasts are based on replies received in November and the first half of December, before the announcement of the measures of 15 December. Respondents were asked for a further estimate of capital expenditure in 1977 and for a provisional estimate for 1978. The results for 1977 indicate a rise in manufacturing investment less than estimated from the previous survey conducted in August/September 1976 but, for distributive and services industries, the latest results are not much different from the previous round.

Manufacturing industry

Replies to the present inquiry indicate that the volume of investment by manufacturing industry in 1977 will be 10-15 per cent higher than in 1976 as compared with the rise of 15-20 per cent which was suggested by the previous survey. Even the revised estimate implies a rapid rate of growth during 1977. The forecast for 1978 is more tentative. The survey suggests another strong increase in 1978 which would take investment back to the order of magnitude experienced in 1970 and 1974.

The interpretation of results for individual industries always poses more problems than for manufacturing as a whole, but signficantly greater than average increases in investment in 1977 are indicated for the food, drink and tobacco, the paper, printing and publishing, the coal and petroleum products, and the 'other manufacturing' industry groups.

Expenditure on new building work, which fell much more sharply in 1976 than expenditure on plant, machinery and vehicles, is likely to show a greater increase than total investment in 1977.

Distributive and service industries (excluding shipping)

The results of the previous survey indicated a small rise in the volume of investment by these industries in 1977; it seemed probable that the increase would not exceed 5 per cent. The results of the latest survey have confirmed this expectation. The preliminary inquiry for 1978 points to a further modest increase, possibly of similar magnitude.

Levels of investment

As a guide to the scale of investment covered by the survey, the following table gives some figures for recent years, with rounded central estimates for 1976 and 1977.

INDUSTRY'S CAPITAL EXPENDITURE — £ million at 1970 prices

Year	Manufacturing	Distributive and service industries (excluding shipping)
1970	2,130 (peak)	1,799
1971	1,991	1,930
1972	1,739	2,071
1973	1,872	2,362
1974	2,024	2,251
1975	1,737	1,964
1976 (fourth quarter estimated)	1,640	1,880
1977 (rounded estimate)	1,850 *	1,940 *

* Each of these estimates would represent about £5,000m at 1977 prices.

Notes

This survey is the latest of a regular series directed to a panel of companies, mainly larger ones but including smaller companies, in manufacturing industry and in the distributive and service industries. The surveys are carried out three times a year.

In this inquiry, contributors were asked for the dates when their forecasts were prepared. Most respondents supplied this information and their figures mainly related to plans made in October and November.

On this occasion, companies responding to the survey accounted for about 45 per cent of the capital expenditure of manufacturing industry and 35 per cent of that in the distributive and service industries.

Figures from respondents are generally given in expected future prices and their estimates of price rises are used to convert them to volume. This is an additional source of uncertainty in a period of rapidly rising prices.

Exploration and development work in the North Sea is classified as a mining activity and is excluded from these surveys. The steel industry is included, but the figures otherwise relate very largely to private industry. Further details of coverage are given in regular articles in *Trade and Industry* on the results of the quarterly inquiry into capital expenditure: the latest of these articles was published on 7 January 1977 and contained a breakdown of expenditure by industry groups.

Wholesale price indices in December

Output prices

The provisional price index for the home sales of manufactured products increased by 1¼ per cent in December to 237.3 (1970 = 100).

The index for manufactured products other than food, drink and tobacco was 1¼ per cent higher. This index rose by 4¾ per cent in the last quarter of 1976 following increases of 3½ and 4¼ per cent in the second and third quarters respectively and is the largest quarterly rise since the first quarter of 1975.

The rate of inflation of the prices of manufactured food continued to moderate in December. The index rose by 1¼ per cent last month contributing to an increase of 6 per cent in the last quarter of 1976. Renewed price rises for tea and coffee made the most significant contribution to the increase in December.

The change in the index for all manufactured products measured over a 12-month period was 17¾ per cent in December, the same as in November, after increasing for four successive months.

Input prices

The provisional price index for materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry fell by ¼ per cent to 330.7. This is the first decrease in this index since February 1975.

The index for materials purchased by manufacturing industry other than the food, drink and tobacco industries fell by 1¼ per cent in December, the largest fall since August 1970. Lower prices for many imported materials, particularly crude oil, reflected the improved exchange rate of sterling against major foreign currencies in December. This index has risen by 6¾ per cent in the four months September to December during which the exchange rate has been unstable.

The rise of 1¾ per cent in the index for materials purchased by the food manufacturing industries was due to higher prices for both home-produced and imported materials. Price rises for home-landed fish and home-produced meat and imported coffee and cereals made the most significant contributions and were partly offset by lower prices for certain imported foods particularly peas and beans. This index has risen by 9¾ per cent in the last quarter of 1976 following a rise of 8 per cent in the previous quarter.

1970 = 100

	Oct	Nov p	Dec p
Output prices (home sales)			
All manufactured products	230.0	234.4	237.3
Products of manufacturing industry other than food, drink and tobacco industries	237.0	241.9	244.8
Products of the food manufacturing industries	248.4	252.5	255.4
Prices of materials and fuel purchased			
By manufacturing industry	327.7	331.8	330.7
materials	337.6	341.8	340.3
coal, gas and electricity	233.3	236.6	238.8
By manufacturing industry other than food, drink and tobacco industries	348.3	350.7	346.9
materials	364.6	366.9	362.2
By food manufacturing industries	281.4	290.3	295.1
materials	282.3	291.0	295.9

p = provisional.

Inquiries: 01-215 3157.

The full article will be published next week.

Retail sales in November 1976

Volume

The final seasonally adjusted index of the volume of retail sales in November is 109.3 (1971 = 100), close to the provisional estimate of 109.

The estimate suggests a recovery in trade from the fall in October back to about the level of the months of the third quarter. In the three months September to November, the volume of sales was 1 per cent higher than in the previous three months. However, the average level of trade during the first 11 months of 1976 was slightly below the annual average for 1975.

For the main components of total trade, sales by durable goods shops in the September to November period were 3 per cent higher than in the previous three months. Sales by clothing and footwear shops were little changed and sales by 'other non-food' shops, which include department stores and mail order businesses, rose by 2 per cent. Sales by food shops fell by 1 per cent between these periods.

Value

Based on non-seasonally adjusted data, the value of total retail sales in November was 17 per cent higher than in November 1975. In the first 11 months of 1976, the average value of sales was 15 per cent higher than in the corresponding period of 1975.

TABLE 1 Volume of retail sales seasonally adjusted

Index numbers of sales per week (average 1971 prices) 1971 = 100

(Sales in 1971 £ million Provisional estimates)	All kinds of business (15,895)	Food shops (6,693)	Non-food shops Total (9,202)	Clothing and footwear shops (2,314)	Durable goods shops (1,801)	Other non-food shops (†) (5,087)
1971	100.0	100.0	100.0	100	100	100
1972	105.8	101.5	109.0	105	115	109
1973	110.7	101.0	117.7	109	127	118
1974	109.9	101.8	115.9	107	123	117
1975	107.9	99.3	114.2	108	121	115
1974 1st quarter	109.6	100.2	116.4	107	122	119
2nd quarter	107.8	101.1	112.6	104	118	115
3rd quarter	111.2	103.0	117.2	110	125	118
4th quarter	111.3	102.8	117.5	107	128	119
1975 1st quarter	111.3	101.1	118.6	111	129	118
2nd quarter	108.9	98.6	116.3	108	130	116
3rd quarter	105.5	97.9	111.0	108	111	112
4th quarter	105.8	99.4	110.4	105	112	112
1976 1st quarter	107.3	99.5	113.1	108	118	114
2nd quarter	106.7	99.3	112.1	106	121	112
3rd quarter	108.7	98.8	115.8	109	127	115
1975 September*	106.1	98.6	111.6	106	112	114
October	104.8	98.5	109.3	106	108	111
November	105.2	99.6	109.3	102	111	112
December*	107.0	100.1	112.1	107	117	113
1976 January	109.8	100.1	116.9	110	125	117
February	107.1	99.5	112.6	107	121	112
March*	105.5	98.9	110.4	106	112	112
April	108.5	101.4	113.6	106	128	112
May	105.7	98.3	111.1	105	117	112
June*	106.1	98.4	111.8	107	119	111
July	108.3	99.5	114.7	107	127	114
August	108.9	99.5	115.8	109	128	115
September*	108.8	97.7	116.8	111	127	116
October	107.3	97.7	114.3	106	126	114
November	109.3	98.5	117.1	107	130	118
1976 June-Aug.	107.6	99.1	113.9	108	124	113
Sept.-Nov.	108.5	97.9	116.1	108	127	116
Percentage increase	0.8	−1.2	1.9	—	3	2

TABLE 2 Value of retail sales seasonally adjusted

Index numbers of value of sales per week (current prices) 1971 = 100

(Sales in 1971 £ million Provisional estimates)	All kinds of business (15,895)	Food shops (6,693)	Non-food shops Total (9,202)	Clothing and footwear shops (2,314)	Durable goods shops (1,801)	Other non-food shops (†) (5,087)
1971	100.0	100.0	100.0	100	100	100
1972	112.0	108.9	114.2	112	118	114
1973	126.9	122.8	129.9	128	136	128
1974	146.7	144.5	148.2	149	143	150
1975	174.5	174.6	174.4	172	166	178
1974 1st quarter	136.6	134.6	138.1	139	134	139
2nd quarter	141.0	139.9	141.7	142	136	144
3rd quarter	150.9	147.9	153.1	157	147	154
4th quarter	158.2	155.7	160.0	159	155	162
1975 1st quarter	165.8	162.5	168.2	170	162	169
2nd quarter	173.7	172.3	174.8	168	177	177
3rd quarter	177.0	178.7	175.7	175	161	181
4th quarter	182.1	186.0	179.2	173	166	187
1976 1st quarter	190.2	192.9	188.3	183	176	195
2nd quarter	193.9	199.2	190.0	184	179	197
3rd quarter	203.8	207.6	200.9	195	189	208
1975 September*	179.2	180.9	177.9	173	162	186
October	177.8	181.0	175.5	173	158	183
November	180.8	185.9	177.1	168	165	186
December*	186.4	190.2	183.8	178	173	190
1976 January	193.2	191.5	194.4	185	185	202
February	189.6	193.7	186.7	182	179	192
March*	188.3	193.3	184.7	182	166	192
April	195.3	200.9	191.3	183	187	196
May	192.1	197.4	188.3	180	175	196
June*	194.2	199.4	190.4	188	175	197
July	199.9	204.0	196.9	189	189	203
August	204.3	208.9	200.9	194	189	208
September*	206.4	209.5	204.2	200	190	211
October	206.3	212.3	202.8	194	193	210
November	213.4	217.8	210.3	197	201	220
1976 June-Aug.	199.1	203.7	195.6	190	183	202
Sept-Nov.	208.7	212.9	205.6	197	194	214
Percentage increase	4.8	4.5	5.1	4	6	6

(†) Including department stores and mail order businesses.

The indices for all shops, food shops and total non-food shops are shown to the first decimal place to help interpretation, but should not be regarded as necessarily accurate to the final digit. The best indication of the recent trend is normally obtained by comparing the average index for the latest three months with the average for the immediately preceding three months but month to month fluctuations may sometimes make it preferable to average two or four months.

When using the volume figures, it should be borne in mind that, when price increases are large, the various problems associated with revaluation of the value series to constant prices become more acute. Thus, the relative accuracy with which volume changes have been measured is likely to have been reduced in recent periods.

The monthly periods consist of four weeks except those marked * which are of five weeks. The November 1976 sales period was the four weeks from 31 October 1976 to 27 November 1976. The corresponding period in 1975 was the four weeks from 2 November 1975 to 29 November 1975.

The value estimates are compiled inclusive of VAT, and will, therefore, reflect changes in the rates of VAT. The volume estimates, however, are not affected by these changes since the retail price indices used to 'deflate' the value data are themselves inclusive of VAT.

The seasonally adjusted series include, where appropriate, adjustments to make allowance for the inclusion of an extra week in the January 1975 trading period. (See Technical Note in *Trade and Industry* of 14 March 1975.)

The press notice giving the *provisional* estimate of the seasonally adjusted index of the volume of retail sales for December and the increase in the value of sales compared with a year earlier will be published later this month.

Inquiries 01-215 3705.

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Hire purchase and other instalment credit business in November

Finance houses and retailers advanced £331 million in new instalment credit agreements in November (seasonally adjusted), a little more than on average in recent months. In the latest three months September-November advances were 8 per cent up on the previous three months June-August. Finance houses' lending increased by 5 per cent between these two periods and retailers' lending increased by 11 per cent.

The average weekly value of retailers' instalment credit sales showed a fairly marked increase in November over recent months and in the latest three months was 11 per cent more than in the preceding three months. Of the three broad groups of retail businesses, durable goods shops recorded the smallest increase in sales, 6 per cent, between the two three-monthly periods; department stores' sales increased by 20 per cent and other instalment credit retailers' sales (mainly mail-order business) by 13 per cent.

The total amount outstanding to finance houses on instalment credit agreements increased by £26 million in November and by £66 million in total in the latest three months, much the same as the increase of £62 million in the June-August period. Amounts outstanding to retailers increased by £23 million in November and £53 million in September-November compared with £32 million in June-August. At the end of November the total amount outstanding to finance houses and retailers was £2,605 million (*not* seasonally adjusted), 14 per cent more than a year earlier.

Inquiries 01-215 3162.

TABLE 1 Hire-purchase and other instalment credit business seasonally adjusted

£ million

	Total		Finance houses†		Retailers‡	
	New credit extended	Change in debt	New credit extended	Change in debt	New credit extended	Change in debt
1971	2,053	240	990	165	1,063	75
1972	2,497	424	1,222	296	1,275	128
1973	2,871	438	1,453	332	1,418	106
1974	2,517	−155	1,037	−160	1,480	5
1975	2,987	−10	1,201	−55	1,786	45
1974 3rd quarter	651	−22	269	−32	382	10
4th quarter	678	−24	277	−33	401	9
1975 1st quarter	711	−9	286	−11	425	2
2nd quarter	759	14	309	−11	450	25
3rd quarter	748	−5	303	−17	445	12
4th quarter	769	−10	303	−16	466	6
1976 1st quarter	838	35	343	2	495	33
2nd quarter	873	76	385	59	488	17
3rd quarter	913	103	392	60	521	43
1976 April	291	25	127	16	164	9
May	291	25	126	24	165	1
June	291	26	132	19	159	7
July	290	30	126	24	164	6
August	304	38	129	19	175	19
September	319	35	137	17	182	18
October	309	35	128	23	181	12
November	331	49	140	26	191	23
1976 Jun-Aug	885	94	387	62	498	32
Sep-Nov	959	119	405	66	554	53
Percentage increase	8		5		11	
Debt outstanding at 31 December 1975 (unadjusted)	—	2,320	—	1,423	—	897

† Direct business only: ie excluding agreements block discounted with finance houses by retailers.

‡ Durable goods shops, department stores and 'other instalment credit retailers.' For further definitions see footnote to Table 2.

TABLE 2 Retailers' instalment credit sales seasonally adjusted

Index numbers of value of sales per week (current prices) 1966 = 100

	Total†	Durable goods shops	Department stores	Other instalment credit retailers‡
HP and other instalment credit sales in 1966§				
£ million	(862)	(327)	(46)	(489)
1971	134	138	138	131
1972	158	162	157	155
1973	176	165	181	183
1974	184	132	193	217
1975	217	161	231	254
1974 3rd quarter	190	138	207	223
4th quarter	199	148	213	231
1975 1st quarter	207	153	228	241
2nd quarter	220	174	223	250
3rd quarter	217	157	229	257
4th quarter	226	163	242	267
1976 1st quarter	240	189	262	272
2nd quarter	238	187	226	273
3rd quarter	256	196	258	295
1976 April	240	188	200	279
May	241	185	229	280
June*	233	187	246	263
July	240	196	239	270
August	256	194	241	300
September*	267	198	286	312
October	264	204	281	304
November	279	209	306	324
1976 Jun-Aug av.	243	192	242	277
Sep-Nov av.	270	203	291	313
Percentage increase	11	6	20	13

† Durable goods shops, department stores and 'other instalment credit retailers'.

‡ General stores (other than department stores), general mail order houses and co-operative societies' non-durable goods departments.

§ Excluding sales against checks issued by other organisations.

The monthly periods for retailers consist of four weeks except those marked * which are of five weeks. The period covered by November 1976 sales was the four weeks from 31 October 1976 to 27 November 1976. The corresponding period in 1975 was from 2 November 1975 to 29 November 1975.

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Turnover of the catering trades in November 1976

Catering turnover, at current prices and after seasonal adjustment, increased again in November.

The total turnover of the catering trades at current prices and after seasonal adjustment in the three month period September to November 1976 was about 1 per cent below the high level of the previous three months.

Recent percentage increases compared with corresponding periods a year earlier (at current prices but *not* seasonally adjusted) for the main kinds of business are:

	All caterers	Licensed hotels and holiday camps	Restaurants, cafés and fish and chip shops	Public houses	Canteens
1975 4th quarter	17	16	13	20	14
1976 1st quarter	13	16	9	14	17
2nd quarter	17	20	11	18	14
3rd quarter	14	19	13	13	16 r
1976 May	12	17	7	12	17
June	17	20	10	18	13
July	14	20	12	13	17
August	12 r	16 r	11	10	14 r
September	16	20	14	15	16
October	13	17	11	12	17
November	15	21	15	13	16

(r = revised figure)

Notes: 1 The Easter Bank holiday fell entirely within the April trading period in 1976, whereas in 1975 it was in March.
2 The Spring Bank holiday fell between the May and June periods in 1976, whereas in 1975 it was entirely in May.
3 The Summer Bank holiday fell between the August and September periods in 1976, whereas in 1975 it was entirely in August.

Turnover for all caterers in the three month period September to November 1976 was 15 per cent higher than in the same period a year earlier; this comprised increases of 19 per cent in licensed hotels and holiday camps, 13 per cent in restaurants, cafés and fish and chip shops, 13 per cent in public houses and 16 per cent in canteens.

Inquiries: 01-215 3177.

TABLE 1 Turnover of all caterers seasonally adjusted

Index numbers of turnover per week† 1969 = 100

	Value at current prices (turnover in 1969 – £2,533 million)
1969	100
1970	108
1971	118
1972	131
1973	148
1974	170
1975	201
1975 1st quarter	187
2nd quarter	198
3rd quarter	208
4th quarter	210
1976 1st quarter	215
2nd quarter	229
3rd quarter	236
1975 January*	186
February	188
March*	188
April	191
May	195
June*	207
July	210
August	213
September*	202
October	208
November	208
December*	214
1976 January	214
February	214
March*	218
April	224
May	225
June*	236
July	239
August	238 r
September*	232
October	235
November	238
1976 June-August	238
1976 September-November	235
Percentage increase	*–1*

(r = revised).

† The monthly periods consist of four weeks except those marked * which are of five weeks. The November 1976 period was the four weeks from 31 October 1976 to 27 November 1976; the November 1975 period was the four weeks from 2 November 1975 to 29 November 1975.

Energy Trends: little change in energy consumption levels

During the three-month period August to October 1976 energy consumption – on a primary fuel input basis – was less than 1 per cent higher than the same period of 1975. Coal consumption remained at almost exactly the level of 1975 but consumption of petroleum fell away sharply in October and, during the period as a whole, was 3 per cent lower. The small increase was accounted for by rises in the consumption of natural gas and nuclear electricity.

After seasonal adjustment and correction for temperature differences, total consumption during the period was 1.3 per cent higher than a year ago, the same rate of increase recorded for January-October 1976 compared with the same period in 1975.

Domestic coal in greater demand

Output of deep-mined coal during the three-month period September to November at slightly under 28 million tons, was some 2.5 million tons less than in the corresponding period of 1975.

Consumption of coal during the September to November period was just over 1 per cent higher than a year ago with power stations and coke ovens higher by about 1.5 and 1 per cent respectively. With the onset of the colder weather there was a revival in demand for house coal, and domestic coal demand rose above the 1975 level in both September and October.

Coal stocks at the end of November, distributed and undistributed in total stood at 34.5 million tons, some 3 million tons above the level at the same time in 1975.

Gas demand shows small increase

The above average temperatures in October kept demand low, but with colder weather in November the position was reversed and brought the overall demand for gas in the three-month period from September to November to about 0.6 per cent above 1975's figure.

Weather affects electricity demand

In the three months of August to October 1976 electricity supplied was 1.4 per cent higher than in the comparable period of 1975 although in October, probably as a result of the warmer weather, supply was slightly lower than a year ago, a reversal of the trend in the previous six months.

Demand for petroleum products lower

From August to October deliveries of petroleum products were 2.7 per cent lower than they were in the equivalent period the year before. This change was mainly due to reduced deliveries in October which were almost 10 per cent down on the previous year.

Of the various major oil products, fuel oil deliveries fell by 8.5 per cent and gas/diesel oil, other than Derv, by nearly 10 per cent. Derv and other fuels used in transport, such as motor spirit and aviation turbine fuel, ranged from about 2 to 3 per cent higher than a year ago.

Activity in the textile and clothing industries

This article reviews activity in the textile and clothing industries during the third quarter of 1976. It is one of a series published at intervals in *Trade and Industry*.

Demand (table 1)
Home demand for clothing and household textiles recovered sharply in the third quarter of 1976 from the low level in the second quarter, with consumer expenditure on these items nearly 4 per cent higher than in the corresponding quarter of 1975. Purchases by foreign visitors are thought to have contributed significantly to this revival. The benefit of the increased demand to the home industry, however, was limited by imports.

Output (table 2)
Output has recovered from the setback it received in the second quarter of the year following its steady climb from the trough in the late summer of 1975. This recovery has been strongly supported by exports but future growth is likely to be slower than was previously expected. There is still a good deal of uncertainty about future prospects, particularly in the home market.

The pattern of output varied from sector to sector. Of those upstream, man-made fibre output fell in the third quarter, cotton spinning recovered to its first quarter level, while the cotton weaving and woollen and worsted sectors remained virtually unchanged. Of the downstream sectors, output of hosiery and other knitted goods and deliveries of made-up clothing were up strongly in the third quarter, but carpet production remained at a very low level.

Prices (table 5)
The prices of imported raw wool and cotton continued to rise in the third quarter of 1976 and reached points 48 per cent and 94 per cent respectively above those current in the corresponding quarter of 1975.

TABLE 1 Comparison of textile and clothing output with some factors affecting demand

Index numbers 1970 = 100 (quarterly figures seasonally adjusted)

								1974	1975				1976			Growth rate per cent per annum	Growth per cent 12 months ended
	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	1969/75	Q3 1976/ Q3 1975
Gross domestic product at factor cost (expenditure based)	98.2	100.0	102.3	104.0	110.2	110.5	108.9	110.7	110.9	108.1	107.3	109.1	112.0	108.4	110.0	1.7	+0.6
Consumer's expenditure																	
All items	97.4	100.0	102.7	108.7	113.6	112.5	111.8	113.6	113.6	111.9	110.9	110.7	112.1	111.1	111.9(e)	2.3	−0.9
Clothing	95.9	100.0	101.3	107.9	113.4	112 6	114.7	114.1	117.9	114.4	114.5	112.0	115.4	114.5	118.7	3.0	−0.1
Household textiles and soft furnishings	105.0	100.0	104.3	112.9	116.8	113.9	114.3	112.9	124.3	110.0	112.9	110.0	127.1	111.4	117.1	1.4	+1.2
Output of total manufacturing	99.6	100.0	99.6	102.4	110.8	108.1	101.4	105.9	105.9	100.4	99.5	100.0	101.5	103.1	102.8	0.3	−1.0
Output of textiles	100 2	100.0	100.6	102.9	108.7	99.2	93.8	92.9	94.1	93.7	92.8	94.5	98.5	94.7	97 1	−1.1	+2.5
Deliveries of made-up clothing	97.4	100.0	104.2	108.7	116.6	114.4	115.3	117.8	121.3	112 3	115.5	112.0	114.2	112.9	119.9	2.9	−1.7

p = provisional.

TABLE 2 Output

Index numbers 1970 = 100 (quarterly figures seasonally adjusted)

	1968 MLH	Weights	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1974 4th qtr	1975 1st qtr	1975 2nd qtr	1975 3rd qtr	1975 4th qtr	1976 1st qtr	1976 2nd qtr	1976 3rd qtr	Growth rate per cent per annum 1969/75	Growth per cent 12 months ended Q3 1976/ Q3 1975
Man-made fibres	411	14.5	91.8	100.0	106.1	107.2	127.3	111.1	100.9	93.5	91.9	101.7	100.4	109.5	115.9	112.8	108.8	1.6	+15.4
Spinning and doubling on cotton system (a)	412	11.7	90.3	100.0	103.2	103.0	112.4	89.6	80.8	79.9	79.7	81.5	79.3	82.7	88.9	83.0	89.9	−1.9	+7.5
Weaving of cotton and man-made fibres (b)	413 (part)	6.9	109.4	100.0	95.3	91.6	93.3	90.3	86.4	91.9	90.2	85.4	85.4	84.6	94.2	82.1	82.0	−3.8	−2.8
Woollen and worsted	414	17.6	109.6	100.0	93.0	97.6	97.7	86.7	77.6	79.4	80.4	78.2	76.3	75.5	78.5	79.7	79.6	−5.0	−0.3
Hosiery and other knitted goods	417	19.0	97.6	100.0	99.5	99.5	102 8	99.8	96.2	95.4	95.6	94.5	97.6	97.1	97.8	95.0	105.1	−0.2	+3.1
Carpets	419	8.0	99.0	100.0	107.8	121.7	125.8	115.5	110.9	113.9	115.1	111.9	109.0	107.5	112.5	100.6	102.8	1.9	−5.9
(Order XIII) (c)		100.0	100.2	100.0	100.6	102.9	108.7	99.2	93.8	92.9	94.1	93.7	92.8	94.5	98.5	94.7	97.1	−1.1	−1.7

(a) Includes texturing of man-made continuous filament yarns.
(b) Excludes linen.
(c) In addition to sectors listed above includes jute, rope, twine and net, lace, narrow fabrics, made-up textiles, textile finishing and other textiles industries. Their combined weight in the total index is 22.3 per cent.

TABLE 3 Production of man-made fibres

Million kilogrammes

								1974	1975				1976			Growth rate per cent per annum	Growth per cent 12 months ended
	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	1969/75	Q3 1976/ Q3 1975
Staple fibre																	
Synthetic	135	170	166	177	221	196	178	37	37	48	44	49	52	53	52	4.7	+24.1
Viscose and acetate	166	172	170	185	204	160	138	29	36	39	32	31	38	35	26	−3.0	−4.4
Total	301	342	336	362	425	356	316	66	73	87	76	80	90	88	78	0.8	+11.3
Continuous filament yarn																	
Synthetic	156	167	191	196	233	200	185	48	42	46	44	53	52	52	46	2.9	+12.8
Viscose and acetate	97	91	85	68	73	72	63	15	15	16	15	17	18	18	16	−6.9	+13.1
Total	253	258	276	264	306	272	248	63	57	62	59	70	70	70	62	−0.3	+12.9
All man-made fibres																	
Synthetic	291	337	357	373	454	396	363	85	79	94	88	102	104	105	98	3.7	+13.2
Viscose and acetate	263	263	255	253	277	232	201	44	51	55	47	48	56	53	42	−4.4	+1.0
Total	554	600	612	626	731	628	564	129	130	149	135	150	160	158	140	0.3	+12.0

These increases are reflected in the price index numbers of materials and fuel purchased by the textile industries, which rose by 35 per cent over the same period, and have had a marked effect on the cost of fabric manufactures, particularly cotton cloth, the price of which has risen by 27 per cent since the third quarter of 1975. In the same period prices of worsted cloth and carpets registered increases of 18-19 per cent, just above the average 16 per cent for all textile industry products.

At the lower end of the range of price increases, socks, stockings, tights and knitted outerwear, reflecting the comparatively slower advance of man-made fibre prices, were the least affected with increases of 8-9 per cent.

Employment (table 6)

A further increase in textile and clothing employment in Great Britain was recorded in the third quarter of 1976, reversing a downward trend which has been apparent since the middle of 1974. Indeed the level of employment in the hosiery sector is now 3 per cent above that of a year previously. This process of consolidation would appear to be attributable to two factors: the revival of activity in certain sectors and the Temporary Employment Subsidy.

Overseas trade (tables 7-10)

The most striking feature of the third quarter 1976 trade figures was the vastly improved export performance recorded by the made-up clothing and knitted goods sectors. The total of £115 million at current prices compares with £75 million in the corresponding quarter of 1975, an increase of 53 per cent; consignments to the EEC accounted for £49 million (42 per cent) of the total, against £29 million (38 per cent) in the third quarter 1975. As a result, despite imports remaining at a high level, the crude deficit for clothing, woven and knitted, was reduced to £61 million.

Exports of yarns and fabrics, which are usually low in the third quarter of the year, were also encouraging. Imports were still high but in current prices fell back to just above the value recorded in the first quarter. There was a further small increase in the crude trade balance.

Inquiries: 01-212 6787.

TABLE 4 Consumption of fibres

Million kilogrammes

						1974	1975				1976			Growth rate per cent per annum	Growth per cent 12 months ended
	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	1969/75	Q3 1976/ Q3 1975
In cotton spinning																	
Raw cotton	169	165	140	129	126	111	103	28	25	26	23	29	30	27	27	−7.9	+10.8
Man-made staple fibre																	
Rayon	39	33	34	32	36	39	30	9	8	9	6	7	7	7	6	−4.3	−15.6
Other	23	32	36	34	37	30	30	7	7	8	6	9	10	9	9	4.5	32.1
In top making wool spinning and felting																	
Wool and animal hair	190	166	151	165	149	121	122	26	30	32	28	32	35	34	31	−7.1	13.8
Man-made staple fibre	80	84	77	86	105	103	86	24	24	24	18	20	22	23	19	1.2	−6.8

TABLE 5 Prices

Index numbers 1970 = 100

								1974	1975				1976		
	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr p
Price index numbers of output (home sales):															
All manufactured products	93.4	100.0	109.0	114.8	123.2	152.0	188.7	164.9	176.0	186.3	193.4	199.2	206.9	214.4	223.2
Textile industries	96.9	100.0	104.9	112.2	131.7	162.2	178.6	170.1	172.9	175.7	180.7	185.1	193.0	201.1	209.5
Man-made fibre cloth	96.0	100.0	106.8	114.8	132.7	172.6	195.0	188.4	189.3	189.6	196.3	204.3	207.1	209.1	213.9
Cotton cloth	91.7	100.0	108.0	117.4	138.9	193.8	190.2	197.7	190.9	190.6	188.5	190.8	205.1	220.5	239.6
Worsted cloth	95.8	100.0	103.9	118.0	173 3	189.8	203.2	189.0	189.0	201.5	207.1	211.0	219.4	234.9	243.7
Socks, stockings and tights (inc pantihose)	100.9	100.0	100.9	102.3	107.1	119.4	134.2	125.0	129.6	132.5	136.7	138.0	142.5	145.0	148.2
Knitted underwear and nightwear	97.1	100.0	104.2	111.1	126.8	154.7	178.5	169.5	174.1	175.4	182.1	182.5	190.3	201.3	210.0
Knitted outerwear	98.2	100.0	101.5	105.3	119.0	140.8	157.8	147.1	153.6	156.5	160.6	160.4	166.8	170.9	174.3
Carpets	96 6	100.0	104.9	111.7	130.2	153.1	177.8	161.6	169.5	171.2	180.2	190.5	200.2	206.6	214.5
Made-up clothing	96.4	100.0	106.4	112.3	119.4	138.3	159.4	146.7	152.6	156.3	161.9	166.7	172.0	175.0	179.4
Price index numbers of material and fuel purchased:															
Textile industries	98.6	100.0	104.8	119.0	166.7	190.0	201.9	186.4	189.8	198.9	204.0	214.9	232.4	255.9	275.1
Commodities wholly or mainly imported:															
Raw cotton	96.4	100.0	112.9	116.6	204.2	229.5	196.9	182.3	165.9	188.6	209.6	223.7	264.6	324.4	405.7
Raw wool	112.4	100.0	94.9	156.3	332.3	250.3	120.7	195.7	194.0	208.9	212.1	227.8	250.4	286.1	313.9
Man-made fibres	98.5	100.0	103.1	103.6	105.8	137.9	156.9	154.1	152.7	152.2	159.8	162.8	166.9	173.4	176.8

TABLE 6 Employment in textiles (a)

Thousands

	MLH	December 1974	March 1975	June 1975	September 1975	December 1975	March 1976	June 1976	September 1976
Great Britain									
Textiles	411-429	525.4	503.1	493.9	487.6	483.7	482.4	486.2	488.7
Production of man-made fibres	411	36.4	34.8	34.0	33.9	34.3	34.0	33.5	33.5
Spinning and doubling on the cotton and flax systems	412	58.0	54.4	52.9	52.1	50.8	51.1	51.8	52.4
Weaving of cotton, linen and man-made fibres	413	46.0	44.5	43.6	43.5	42.5	42.4	42.8	43.1
Woollen and worsted	414	92.2	88.2	88.0	85.8	84.3	85.0	85.0	84.4
Hosiery and other knitted goods	417	124.6	117.6	115.0	113.1	113.1	112.8	115.4	116.7
Carpets	419	40.2	38.5	37.4	36.7	36.0	36.1	35.7	35.3
Textile finishing	423	47.9	46.2	45.0	45.5	45.9	45.8	46.5	47.1
Clothing	441-449	320.5	312.4	307.5	306.0	305.8	300.3	302.0	302.4

(a) Employees in employment at middle of each month.

Have you a good export picture?

Each week *Trade and Industry* publishes pictures illustrating Britain's export business. Companies with export successes are invited to send in the story with a photograph showing the goods in manufacture, ready for despatch, or, preferably, on arrival overseas. The story must, of course, reach us while it is still news.

Send your export photographs to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 439, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

TABLE 7 Crude trade balance (a)

£ million at current prices

	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1974 4th qtr	1975 1st qtr	1975 2nd qtr	1975 3rd qtr	1975 4th qtr	1976 1st qtr	1976 2nd qtr	1976 3rd qtr
Textile fibres (Division 26)															
Exports	101.8	96.4	87.3	108.1	172.1	201.8	183.5	37.0	43.2	52.1	41.3	46.9	57.6	64.8	59.8
Imports	210.4	183.9	150.0	213.7	322.4	310.5	263.4	56.6	56.1	74.2	70.4	62.6	101.2	113.7	103.1
Balance	−108.6	−87.6	−62.7	−105.6	−150.3	−108.7	−79.9	−19.6	−12.9	−22.1	−29.1	−15.8	−43.6	−48.9	−43.3
Textile yarns, fabrics, etc, (Division 65)															
Exports	360.6	396.8	425.8	445.4	589.5	745.8	698.2	183.1	165.1	174.5	161.4	197.2	203.4	230.9	225.3
Imports	238.7	256.4	324.9	369.7	514.9	688.2	682.8	170.8	166.8	166.0	167.4	182.6	212.7	225.3	213.7
Balance	+121.9	+140.4	+100.9	+75.7	+74.6	+57.6	+15.4	+12.3	−1.7	+8.5	−6.0	+14.6	−9.3	+5.6	+11.6
Clothing (Division 84)															
Exports	108.5	123.1	129.5	144.3	179.6	230.0	265.5	68.7	52.5	54.8	75.2	83.0	74.1	87.7	115.4
Imports	124.5	129.4	178.2	218.8	333.6	402.4	505.1	92.2	111.0	125.1	130.7	138.3	158.3	166.4	176.3
Balance	−16.0	−6.3	−48.7	−74.5	−154.0	−172.4	−239.6	−23.5	−58.5	−70.3	−55.5	−55.3	−84.2	−78.7	−60.9

(a) Imports cif, exports fob.

TABLE 8 Imports

£ million at current prices (cif)

	Textile fibres (Div. 26)			Textile yarns, fabrics and made-up articles (Div. 65)										Clothing (Div. 84)		
	Man-made fibres, tow and waste (266)	Wool tops (262.7 part and 262.8)	Total textile fibres	Woollen and worsted yarns (651.2)	Cotton yarns and thread (651.3 and .4)	Continuous filament yarns (part 651.6 and 651.7)	Spun man-made fibre yarns (part 651.6 and 651.7)	Cotton woven fabrics (652)	Woollen and worsted woven fabrics (653.2)	Man-made fibre woven fabrics (653.5 and 6)	Knitted fabrics (653.7)	Carpets (657.5 and .6)	Total yarns, fabrics etc.	Made-up clothing (841.1 and .2)	Hosiery and knitted garments (part* 841.4)	Total clothing
1969	15.3	3.2	210.4	2.6	9.1	38.0	4.8	58.0	7.6	36.4	9.6	18.1	238.7	68.8	49.0	124.5
1970	13.3	3.3	183.9	3.9	9.8	38.4	5.6	53.5	7.6	42.2	13.0	20.1	256.4	70.7	51.4	129.4
1971	16.9	2.8	150.0	4.1	10.2	54.2	7.3	70.4	7.9	57.1	16.6	22.0	324.9	99.6	68.8	178.2
1972	24.9	4.3	213.7	6.3	12.5	52.8	9.2	74.2	8.2	78.6	14.0	28.0	369.7	123.7	82.7	218.8
1973	35.4	5.3	322.4	11.0	15.5	70.7	17.0	103.5	11.8	115.3	12.7	41.4	514.9	197.8	112.3	333.6
1974	57.2	4.8	310.5	9.5	42.8	105.2	30.2	130.5	13.5	154.5	16.4	44.9	688.2	243.9	134.1	402.4
1975	45.5	3.8	263.4	11.1	28.3	92.2	28.7	125.7	16.6	167.2	18.5	49.5	682.8	307.5	166.7	505.1
1974																
2nd qtr.	14.7	1.6	92.8	2.7	11.4	26.7	7.8	31.1	3.8	35.3	3.9	10.3	167.9	63.4	32.9	102.1
3rd qtr.	18.2	1.0	72.2	2.2	11.1	34.6	8.3	28.4	3.4	39.4	4.6	12.5	180.0	61.5	34.9	102.5
4th qtr.	12.5	1.1	56.6	2.4	9.6	26.1	7.6	28.7	3.1	42.2	4.4	11.4	170.8	54.7	30.7	92.2
1975																
1st qtr.	10.4	1.0	56.1	2.2	6.6	20.7	5.9	31.7	3.2	44.5	3.6	12.7	166.8	68.0	37.2	111.0
2nd qtr.	10.8	0.8	74.2	3.0	6.8	20.6	6.8	29.8	5.0	41.4	4.3	11.7	166.0	79.4	39.5	125.1
3rd qtr.	12.1	1.1	70.4	2.8	7.0	24.9	7.0	30.1	5.0	39.9	5.4	11.5	167.4	75.7	45.9	130.7
4th qtr.	12.2	0.9	62.7	3.1	7.9	26.0	9.0	34.1	3.4	41.4	5.2	13.6	182.6	84.4	44.1	138.3
1976																
1st qtr.	14.5	0.9	101.2	3.6	9.5	29.4	9.8	43.6	4.0	47.6	4.6	16.0	212.7	97.9	52.5	158.3
2nd qtr.	14.7	1.1	113.7	4.2	9.0	31.4	10.6	53.0	4.7	43.7	5.4	17.2	225.3	104.3	53.2	166.4
3rd qtr	15.4	1.0	103.1	4.2	9.2	30.0	9.3	44.6	5.1	47.2	6.0	15.4	213.7	100.2	64.1	176.3

* Less 841.45
Source: Overseas Trade Statistics.

TABLE 9 Exports

£ million at current prices (fob)

	Textile fibres (Div. 26)			Textile yarns, fabrics and made-up articles (Div. 65)										Clothing (Div. 84)		
	Man-made fibres, tow and waste (266)	Wool tops (262.7 part and 262.8)	Total textile fibres	Woollen and worsted yarns (651.2)	Cotton yarns and thread (651.3 and .4)	Continuous filament yarns (part 651.6 and 651.7)	Spun man-made fibre yarns (part 651.6 and 651.7)	Cotton woven fabrics (652)	Woollen and worsted woven fabrics (653.2)	Man-made fibre woven fabrics (653.5 and .6)	Knitted fabrics (653.7)	Carpets (657.5 and .6)	Total yarns, fabrics etc.	Made-up clothing (841.1 and .2)	Hosiery and knitted garments (part* 841.4)	Total clothing
1969	42.3	26.6	101.8	23.3	11.4	53.7	7.0	28.4	71.3	27.5	21.2	37.3	360.6	58.5	34.1	108.5
1970	47.0	20.4	96.4	23.4	11.0	68.6	8.6	26.7	70.1	32.3	38.9	39.4	396.8	60.5	45.0	123.1
1971	45.5	16.3	87.3	23.3	10.1	80.4	9.6	28.6	62.8	31.6	54.4	43.5	425.8	61.8	49.0	129.5
1972	56.5	19.8	108.1	27.3	11.7	83.8	10.9	29.0	66.9	37.4	43.2	51.6	445.4	70.2	53.5	144.3
1973	77.7	38.1	172.1	37.0	17.0	110.0	18.6	39.5	91.5	49.9	43.1	78.2	589.5	86.9	68.0	179.6
1974	118.7	26.2	201.8	41.6	22.0	136.5	28.1	52.0	106.6	68.6	44.9	100.6	745.8	113.4	81.8	230.0
1975	101.3	28.6	183.5	37.5	18.5	112.8	23.3	46.9	92.5	68.2	44.3	94.9	698.2	137.1	89.3	265.5
1974																
2nd qtr.	35.7	7.8	61.1	12.1	5.7	41.5	8.0	13.6	29.8	18.4	11.6	26.9	204.6	26.2	16.5	50.8
3rd qtr.	33.1	4.9	48.7	9.6	5.7	29.2	6.6	12.6	26.4	16.8	11.3	23.1	178.6	31.6	24.9	66.2
4th qtr.	20.6	4.9	37.0	9.4	5.6	28.4	6.6	13.9	25.8	17.6	11.2	26.1	183.1	33.6	25.0	68.7
1975																
1st qtr.	26.2	5.2	43.2	8.3	4.6	26.9	5.9	12.1	21.9	17.6	8.2	22.2	165.1	27.0	17.2	52.5
2nd qtr.	32.1	7.0	52.1	9.4	4.4	28.0	5.9	10.7	24.4	16.7	11.8	22.2	174.5	29.8	16.8	54.8
3rd qtr.	21.4	8.0	41.3	8.7	3.9	25.8	4.6	11.2	23.8	15.0	11.4	20.5	161.4	37.9	26.8	75.2
4th qtr.	21.6	8.4	46.9	11.1	5.6	32.1	6.9	12.9	22.4	18.9	12.9	30.0	197.2	42.4	28.5	83.0
1976																
1st qtr.	26.9	11.0	57.6	11.1	5.3	35.4	7.7	16.1	19.7	20.6	10.9	32.1	203.4	37.8	25.3	74.1
2nd qtr	30.3	13.4	64.8	13.7	6.8	39.4	8.5	16.6	27.6	22.2	12.5	34.7	230.9	48.2	28.5	87.7
3rd qtr	29.1	11.6	59.8	13.6	6.8	38.9	7.1	15.8	28.5	21.0	13.6	31.6	225.3	58.3	42.8	115.4

* Less 841.45
Source: Overseas Trade Statistics.

TABLE 10 Imports of raw materials

£ million at current prices (cif)

	Greasy wool (262.1)		Degreased wool (262.2)		Fine animal hair (262.3)		Raw cotton* (263.1)	
	mn kg	£m	mn kg	£m	mn kg	£m	mn kg	£m
1969	171	73	64	26	15	14	162	43
1970	149	58	57	22	10	9	167	44
1971	99	33	62	21	9	5	142	41
1972	130	56	77	23	18	13	137	44
1973	95	93	56	55	15	26	171	66
1974	65	67	56	48	9	21	93	61
1975	84	58	48	37	11	22	113	59
1974 1st qtr.	23	26	..	13	2	5	28	18
2nd qtr.	20	21	..	15	3	8	27	18
3rd qtr.	16	13	..	13	2	4	16	11
4th qtr.	6	7	..	7	2	4	22	14
1975 1st qtr.	19	13	8	6	2	3	23	11
2nd qtr.	29	19	16	12	3	6	32	16
3rd qtr	20	14	15	12	3	6	32	17
4th qtr.	16	12	9	7	3	7	26	15
1976 1st qtr.	35	32	10	10	3	8	38	23
2nd qtr.	28	28	17	17	5	14	34	25
3rd qtr	24	27	13	15	3	10	26	22

* 1969 includes small amount of carded or combed cotton.
Source: Overseas Trade Statistics.

Output in the wool textile industry

The volume of production in the wool textile industry (as measured by the seasonally adjusted index of production) in October 1976 was 1 per cent more than in October 1975. Statistics issued by the Wool Industry Bureau of Statistics show that in the period January-October 1976 woven fabrics (excluding blankets) were 7 per cent lower than in January-October 1975; deliveries of worsted yarns (excluding semi-worsted yarn) were 8 per cent higher. Production of wool and hair tops was 22 per cent more and that of man-made fibre tops was 2 per cent more.

Output in the wool textile industry

	Consumption	Production			Deliveries			
	Raw wool (clean weight)	Tops		Woollen yarn (†)	Worsted yarn (§)	Woven fabrics (excluding blankets) (‡)		Blankets (†)
		Wool and hair	Man-made fibres			Woollen	Worsted	
	million kilos					million sq. metres		
1968	177.5	96.6	36.4	147.4	98.2	135.8	110.6	27.3
1969	174.5	92.0	42.2	142.2	100.5	130.1	109.2	26.9
1970	153.1	79.7	44.6	129.4	97.6	115.5	99.8	24.6
1971	141.2	66.2	36.6	130.7	93.0	101.9	83.9	28.5
1972	152.3	75.1	45.9	130.9	101.6	99.8	83.7	28.8
1973	136.6	62.2	55.9	135.2	100.0	104.0	88.4	30.6
1974	112.6	43.9	54.8	122.5	87.2	92.1	82.6	28.1
1975	110.6	46.8	44.4	112.1	75.5	76.8	74.6	24.7
1975 1st quarter	27.3	11.2	12.8	29.4	20.4	17.7	20.7	7.6
2nd quarter	29.1	11.9	12.7	29.7	19.4	22.5	19.2	5.0
3rd quarter	25.5	11.4	9.2	24.6	15.7	19.8	17.1	5.7
4th quarter	28.7	12.3	9.6	28.4	19.9	16.8	17.6	6.4
1976 1st quarter	31.0	13.8	11.6	29.4	20.6	16.9	18.2	6.5
2nd quarter	30.5	14.5	12.1	27.9	20.3	19.6	16.9	4.4
3rd quarter	27.6	13.4	10.6	23.7	18.2	19.4	16.9	5.2
1975 April	9.6	4.1	4.5	9.8	6.9	7.0	6.5	1.8
May	9.3	3.5	3.7	9.9	6.0	7.2	6.3	1.7
June	10.2	4.3	4.5	10.0	6.4	8.2	6.4	1.6
July	9.0	4.5	3.8	8.0	5.1	6.7	6.4	1.9
August	7.0	2.7	2.2	7.5	4.7	5.9	4.5	1.7
September	9.5	4.2	3.2	9.1	5.9	7.2	6.2	2.1
October	9.7	4.0	3.6	9.9	7.2	6.6	6.4	2.1
November	9.7	4.3	3.6	9.2	6.5	5.4	5.7	1.9
December	9.3	4.0	2.4	9.3	6.2	4.8	5.5	2.4
1976 January	10.0	4.5	4.3	9.5	6.4	5.1	5.8	2.6
February	9.6	4.2	3.2	9.2	6.6	5.3	5.9	1.9
March	11.4	5.1	4.1	10.7	7.6	6.5	6.5	2.0
April	10.4	5.0	3.9	9.5	7.0	5.7	5.5	1.5
May	10.2	4.8	4.6	9.3	7.0	7.0	5.6	1.4
June	9.9	4.7	3.6	9.1	6.3	6.9	5.8	1.5
July	8.7	4.6	3.8	7.1	5.9	6.1	5.6	1.5
August	8.3	3.5	2.8	7.7	5.3	6.0	4.6	1.7
September	10.6	5.3	4.0	8.9	7.0	7.3	6.7	2.0
October		4.9	4.9		7.9	7.1	6.0	2.2

(†) Estimated. (‡) Woven woollen fabrics include fabrics which are mainly woollen by weight of components and, similarly, woven worsted fabrics include fabrics which are mainly worsted by weight of components. (§) From January 1969 includes semi-worsted yarn: previously yarn of this type was not separately distinguished and the small quantities involved were divided between the woollen and worsted yarn headings. In October deliveries of semi-worsted yarn were 0.7 million kilos.

Inquiries: 01-212 0017 or 01-212 6474

Production in the cotton industry

Statistics issued by the Textile Statistics Bureau show that in the period January to October 1976 the amount of cloth woven was 3 per cent less than in January to October 1975. Production of single yarn increased by 9 per cent and doubled yarn increased by 2 per cent.

Production in the cotton industry

Annual totals and weekly averages

	Single yarn (†)		Doubled yarn		Woven cloth	
	Cotton yarn (‡)	Spun man-made yarns and mixture yarn, inc. waste	Cotton yarn	Other	Cotton	Man-made fibre and mixtures
	million kg.				million metres	
1968	171.2	67.5	49.9	52.0	668.2	507.3
1969	166.2	73.2	46.8	60.9	661.5	538.1
1970	158.7	77.4	43.2	57.3	627.6	484.3
1971	133.0	83.3	85.0		559.1	479.8
1972	121.4	81.7	75.4		513.0	469.8
1973	115.4	92.5	82.1		453.2	502.3
1974	101.3	87.7	74.7		409.5	505.3
1975	94.4	76.4	68.4		405.4	503.0
1975 January*	1.8	1.5	1.4		8.2	9.7
February	1.9	1.6	1.5		8.8	10.7
March	1.7	1.3	1.3		8.3	9.7
April*	1.8	1.6	1.2		7.7	9.4
May	2.1	1.7	1.5		8.1	10.0
June	1.7	1.6	1.3		8.7	10.1
July*	1.5	1.1	1.1		5.4	7.2
August	1.9	1.5	1.3		8.0	9.4
September	1.4	1.0	1.1		6.4	8.8
October*	2.1	1.6	1.4		8.5	10.9
November	2.1	1.6	1.4		8.7	10.9
December*	1.5	1.2	1.0		5.7	7.8
1976 January	2.3	1.5	1.4		8.6	11.0
February	2.2	1.4	1.4		8.3	10.8
March*	2.3	1.5	1.4		8.3	10.5
April	1.9	1.4	1.2		6.6	8.7
May	2.4	1.7	1.5		8.0	10.5
June*	1.7	1.3	1.1		7.0	8.7
July	1.8	1.3	1.2		4.3	6.8
August	2.1	1.6	1.4		7.3	9.0
September*	1.8	1.3	1.2		6.4	8.7
October	2.3	1.7	1.6		7.9	10.6

(†) Spun in the cotton industry. (‡) Including yarns wholly of cotton waste and mixture yarn of cotton and cotton waste. * Average of five weeks.

Inquiries: 01-212 0017 or 01-212 6474.

Production of man-made fibres in October

In the three months ended October 1976 the volume of production of man-made fibres, seasonally adjusted, was estimated to have been 5 per cent less than in the three months ended July 1976. Total production by weight of man-made fibres in the period January-October 1976 was 9 per cent higher than in January-October 1975, output of continuous filament increased by 12 per cent and staple fibre increased by 7 per cent.

Man-made fibre production

Thousand metric tons

	Total	Continuous filament (singles)	Staple fibre
1968	539.1	241.8	297.4
1969	553.9	252.5	301.5
1970	599.4	257.6	341.9
1971	613.1	276.4	336.7
1972	626.5	264.0	362.5
1973	730.8	305.6	425.3
1974	627.6	271.0	356.6
1975	562.5	246.5	316.0
1975 1st quarter	129.1	56.4	72.7
2nd quarter	148.8	61.9	86.9
3rd quarter	134.1	58.5	75.7
4th quarter	150.4	69.7	80.7
1976 1st quarter	159.8	70.0	89.8
2nd quarter	157.5	69.7	87.7
3rd quarter	140.4	62.4	78.0
1975 January	42.1	18.2	24.0
February	42.6	17.6	25.0
March	44.3	20.6	23.7
April	48.1	20.0	28.1
May	53.6	22.3	31.4
June	47.0	19.6	27.4
July	47.0	19.3	27.7
August	40.8	17.9	22.8
September	46.3	21.2	25.1
October	55.1	24.0	31.1
November	49.1	23.6	25.5
December	46.2	22.1	24.1
1976 January	53.3	24.1	29.2
February	52.3	22.6	29.7
March	54.1	23.2	30.9
April	53.1	22.1	31.0
May	53.6	23.9	28.6
June	51.8	23.7	28.0
July	46.7	21.1	25.6
August	43.8	19.5	24.3
September	49.9	21.8	28.1
October	53.0	22.7	30.3

Index of the volume of production

1970 = 100

1968	87
1969	92
1970	100
1971	106
1972	107
1973	127
1974	111
1975	101

	Actual	Seasonally adjusted
1975 1st quarter	92	92
2nd quarter	104	102
3rd quarter	96	100
4th quarter	112	109
1976 1st quarter	116	116
2nd quarter	115	113
3rd quarter	104	109
1975 January	85	87
February	95	94
March	96	94
April	103	97
May	111	110
June	98	98
July	95	98
August	89	100
September	103	103
October	116	106
November	114	111
December	105	112
1976 January	116	121
February	118	117
March	113	110
April	115	107
May	114	113
June	117	118
July	105	108
August	96	108
September	111	111
October	113	102

Inquiries: 01-212 0017 or 01-212 6474.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor should be addressed to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 437, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, and *not* to HMSO.

Big increase in earnings from tourism

Thirteen per cent more overseas visitors came to the UK in the third quarter of 1976 compared with the same period in 1975. Their expenditure in the UK amounted to £643 million, an increase of 44 per cent over the previous year. These are the provisional findings from the International Passenger Survey for the third quarter of 1976 (to be published in Business Monitor M 6, Overseas Travel and Tourism).

The record favourable balance on the travel account of £208 million (seasonally adjusted) in this quarter was considerably greater than the previous quarter's record balance (revised) of £122 million. The balance for the first three quarters of 1976 was £417 million compared with £239 million in the whole of 1975 and £154 million in 1974.

Visits abroad by UK residents declined by 9 per cent on a year ago while expenditure abroad rose by 7 per cent to £413 million. The number of visits abroad (4.5 million) was still considerably greater than the number of overseas visitors coming to the UK (a record 4.0 million) but whereas UK expenditure abroad averaged £91 per visit, expenditure by overseas visitors in the UK averaged £162 per visit.

The above figures include estimates for visits to and from the Irish Republic. Figures quoted in the following sections and accompanying tables exclude such traffic.

Overseas visitors to the United Kingdom

Visits by residents of EEC countries rose by 16 per cent on the corresponding period of 1975. The largest increase was in those from the Netherlands, 49 per cent higher than last year, while those from France (up by 19 per cent) and Germany (10 per cent) also showed substantially higher figures. Visits from Italy however were 8 per cent lower than in 1975.

The number of visits from other Western European countries was 24 per cent higher than a year ago. This increase was concentrated among visitors from Scandinavian countries (including Denmark) whose numbers were 61 per cent higher than in the previous summer.

There were 6 per cent more visits from North America than in the third quarter of 1975, and 13 per cent more visits from other areas. Among the latter the Middle East provided 30 per cent more visits to the UK than in the same quarter of 1975.

Of the visits to the UK during the quarter 56 per cent were for holiday purposes compared with 53 per cent a year ago. Inclusive-tour visits increased by nearly one-third and amounted to 23 per cent of holiday visits. Visits for business purposes rose by 15 per cent, those to friends and relatives were 1 per cent higher, and those for other purposes (including those for study and shopping as well as those for more than one purpose) increased by 2 per cent.

The mode of transport used by visitors to the UK showed a similar pattern to the previous year, 54 per cent travelling by air and 46 per cent by sea.

Overseas visitors to the United Kingdom (1)

Thousands

		Area of residence				Mode of travel		Purpose of visit			
	Total all visits (1)	W. Europe EEC(1)	W. Europe non-EEC	North America	Other areas	Air	Sea	Holiday	Business	Visits to friends and relatives	Other purposes
1974 – total	7,224	3,141	950	1,755	1,379	4,719	2,505	3,393	1,541	1,281	1,009
1975 – total	8,141	3,599	1,128	1,817	1,597	5,053	3,088	3,795	1,541	1,440	1,365
% change 1975/74	+13	+15	+19	+4	+16	+7	+23	+12	—	+12	+35
1975 1st quarter	1,366	618	207	255	286	953	413	567	342	268	189
2nd quarter	1,947	862	269	456	360	1,203	744	911	413	334	289
3rd quarter	3,207	1,445	401	739	623	1,731	1,477	1,686	354	556	612
4th quarter	1,621	675	251	367	327	1,166	455	631	432	283	275
1976 1st quarter	1,367	608	206	257	295	961	406	548	329	293	196
2nd quarter	2,239	1,041	293	514	391	1,325	914	1,114	443	342	339
3rd quarter	3,662	1,677	498	785	701	1,466	1,696	2,067	406	563	626
Percentage change on year ago:											
1st quarter	—	−2	—	+1	+3	+1	−2	−3	−4	+9	+4
2nd quarter	+15	+21	+9	+13	+9	+10	+23	+22	+7	+2	+17
3rd quarter	+14	+14	+24	+6	+13	+14	+15	+23	+15	+1	+2

(1) excluding visits from the Irish Republic Source: International Passenger Survey.

Visits abroad by UK residents (1)

Thousands

		Area of residence				Mode of travel		Purpose of visit			
	Total all visits (1) (2)	W. Europe EEC(1)	W. Europe non-EEC	North America	Other areas	Air	Sea	Holiday	Business	Visits to friends and relatives	Other purposes
1974 – total	9,176	4,079	3,739	420	728	6,035	2,931	6,149	1,514	1,127	385
1975 – total	10,269	4,602	4,170	492	849	6,505	3,608	6,891	1,520	1,282	575
% change 1975/74	+12	+13	+12	+17	+17	+8	+23	+12	—	+14	+49
1975 1st quarter	1,500	618	576	70	219	1,159	324	792	353	268	87
2nd quarter	2,655	1,304	1,019	95	192	1,612	998	1,748	415	270	222
3rd quarter	4,369	2,013	1,841	199	254	2,416	1,890	3,340	333	504	193
4th quarter	1,745	666	734	129	185	1,318	396	1,012	419	241	73
1976 1st quarter	1,433	569	541	75	225	1,122	288	732	399	238	63
2nd quarter	2,683	1,332	987	111	212	1,703	939	1,725	482	291	184
3rd quarter	3,950	1,876	1,576	215	240	2,277	1,630	2,925	360	579	149
Percentage change on year ago:											
1st quarter	−4	−8	−6	+7	+3	−3	−11	−8	+13	−11	−28
2nd quarter	+1	+2	−3	+17	+10	+6	−6	−1	+16	+8	−17
3rd quarter	−10	−7	−14	+8	−6	−6	−14	−12	+3	+3	−24

(1) excluding visits to the Irish Republic
(2) includes cruise holidays not allocated to area or mode of travel Source: International Passenger Survey

Visits abroad by UK residents

The decline in the number of visits abroad by UK residents was spread across almost all European countries. Visits to EEC countries were 7 per cent lower than in the summer of 1975, the Netherlands being the only destination to register a small increase (up by 5 per cent). Visits to other European countries were 14 per cent lower. There were 23 per cent less visits to Austria, 17 per cent less to Spain, 15 per cent less to Yugoslavia, 14 per cent less to Scandinavia and 3 per cent less to Switzerland. Visits to Portugal declined by 47 per cent to 25,000; this compares with a peak of 83,000 visits during the summer of 1973. The only Mediterranean country to which visits increased was Greece, these being 5 per cent higher than in 1975 (at 183,000). Visits to Eastern Europe declined by 10 per cent. The number of visits to France (27 per cent of visits to all Western European countries) slightly exceeded those to Spain (26 per cent). In 1975 these countries had accounted for 27 per cent and 28 per cent, respectively. Italy was the next most popular destination (9 per cent of visits) followed by West Germany (7 per cent), Belgium/Luxembourg (5 per cent), Netherlands (5 per cent), Greece (5 per cent) and Yugoslavia (3 per cent).

Visits to non-European countries, which accounted for 10 per cent of all visits, were 3 per cent higher than in 1975. This small increase was concentrated in North America, to which there were 8 per cent more visits.

The number of holidays taken abroad during the third quarter was 2.9 million, 12 per cent lower than 1975 when there were 3.3 million. The decline was particularly noticeable among inclusive-tours whose numbers declined from 1.8 million to 1.5 million. Holiday visits, which accounted for 76 per cent of all visits in the summer of 1975, accounted for 74 per cent in 1976.

During 1975 visits abroad by UK residents had increased at a much faster rate by sea than by air. For the year as a whole sea-travel had been 23 per cent higher than in 1974 and air travel 8 per cent higher. During 1976 there has been some swing back in favour of air traffic. Visits abroad by sea were 14 per cent lower in the third quarter than in 1975, visits by air were 6 per cent lower; this gave air travel 58 per cent of all visits compared with 55 per cent in the summer of 1975.

UK airlines' activity, April to September

Detailed statistics of the activity of UK airlines in the six summer months, April to September 1976, now available and shortly to be published in the CAA's *Monthly Statistics**, show that 5,341 million tonne-kilometres were made available by UK airlines, an increase of 8.5 per cent over the summer 1975, and 5.8 per cent over the summer of the peak year 1973.

Seat kilometres used on scheduled services amounted to 17,401 million in the six months, 14.4 per cent over 1975; the corresponding figure for non-scheduled services was 11,873 million seat kilometres, an increase of 9.5 per cent. There was a slight weakening in the share of the passenger market held by non-scheduled services from 41.5 per cent to 40.6 per cent.

In the summer of 1976, 4.5 million inclusive tour passengers (one way journeys) were carried by UK airlines on non-scheduled services. This is only 1.0 per cent greater than in 1975, and 15.2 per cent less than carried in the six summer months of 1973. The passenger load factor (the percentage of seats occupied) was 82.7 per cent in the summer of 1976 compared with 87.4 per cent in the summer of 1975. This suggests that operators may have expected a slightly greater growth in demand than emerged. The average air journey by an inclusive tour charter passenger was 1,578 kilometres in the summer of 1976 compared with 1,491 kilometres in the summer of 1975.

Cargo carriage on scheduled services by UK airlines amounted to 386 million tonne-kilometres in April to September 1976 (0.9 per cent up on 1975); 274 million tonne-kilometres were carried in the holds of passenger aircraft and the remaining 112 million tonne-kilometres carried in freighter aircraft. Cargo carried by non-scheduled services in the six summer months of 1976 amounted to 303 million tonne-kilometres, 3.2 per cent over the same period of 1975; these quantities were carried in freighter aircraft, there being no carriage of revenue cargo in the holds of aircraft on non-scheduled passenger services.

* *CAA Monthly Statistics*, on subscription £25 pa, from CAA, PO Box 41, Cheltenham, Glos, or single copies price £3 for personal callers from the CAA Central Library, Aviation House, 129 Kingsway, London WC2B 6NN.

Provisional estimates of vehicle production and new car registrations in December

Tables 1 and 2 show United Kingdom vehicle production as estimated from provisional returns supplied by the major manufacturers. Car production in the five weeks ending 1 January 1977 at 110,000 units (22,000 per week) was 7 per cent below December 1975, while commercial vehicle output of 30,300 units (6,100 per week) was 13 per cent below the December 1975 level.

Car output in the year 1976 was 5 per cent above 1975 while output of commercial vehicles fell by 3 per cent. But there were 53 working weeks in 1976 compared with 52 in 1975. When allowance is made for this the rate of production of cars rose by 3 per cent in 1976 while that of commercial vehicles fell by 4 per cent.

Seasonally adjusted, December car output of 96,000 units was 9 per cent below the monthly average for 1975. Commercial vehicle output at 25,700 units was 19 per cent below the 1975

TABLE 1 Estimated UK production in December

Thousands

	Cars		Commercial vehicles	
	Month	Weekly average	Month	Weekly average
Estimated output:				
December 1976 (5 weeks to 1.1.77)	110.0	22.0	30.3	6.1
December 1975 (5 weeks to 27.12.76)	118.8	23.8	34.9	7.0
Percentage change		−7		−13
	Year		Year	
1976 total (53 weeks)	1,334	25.2	370.7	7.0
1975 total (52 weeks)	1,268	24.4	380.7	7.3
Percentage change	+5	+3	−3	−4

TABLE 2 UK vehicle production: monthly averages (seasonally adjusted)

Thousands

	1976							Average of		
	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	July/Sept. 1976	Oct./Dec. 1976	% change
Cars	117	111	104	105	109	110	96	104	105	+1
Commercial vehicles	31.8	30.4	29.8	29.4	29.9	32.6	25.7	29.8	29.4	−1

TABLE 3 GB: New car registrations monthly averages

Thousands

	1975 total	1976 total	Percentage change	1976							Percentage change qtr. 4 on qtr. 3
				1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	
Recorded	1,167	1,256	+8	115	110	107	87	96	104	61	
Seasonally adjusted				106	106	97	106	104	111	102	+9

monthly average. Comparing the fourth quarter with the third quarter, car production rose by 1 per cent while commercial vehicle production fell by 1 per cent.

Table 3 shows provisional estimates of new car registrations. Seasonally adjusted, new car registrations in Great Britain in December are provisionally estimated at 102,000. For the year as a whole, registrations in 1976 totalled 1,256,000 cars, 8 per cent higher than in 1975.

Business Monitors

The following titles and issues of Business Monitors are now available:

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PQ499.2 Miscellaneous manufacturing industries for third quarter 1976

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The reserves in December 1976

The UK official reserves fell by $1,027 million during December after repayment of the $1,545 million drawn on $5.3 billion short-term facility. During the month net accruals of foreign currency borrowing by the public sector under the exchange cover scheme were $102 million and long-term debt servicing payments $28 million. At the end of December the reserves stood at $4,129 million.

British Film Fund Agency returns

The British Film Fund Agency has authorised the publication of the following information for the nine weeks ended 27 November 1976.

Distributors' Earnings submitted	£
Low cost films:	
Eligible (after multiplying by 2½)	202,438
Not eligible for 2½ times rental	82,211
	284,649
High cost films (including newsreels after multiplying by 2½)	817,496
	1,102,145
Films under 3,000 ft (after multiplying by 2½)	125,402
	1,227,547
Levy collections paid to the Agency by HM Customs and Excise to 14 December 1976 including an estimate of collections approximately covering entertainments for the nine weeks ended 27 November 1976	£860,000

The first interim allocation for the twentieth year will be at the rate of 38 per cent.

Registrations of British, community and foreign films

The following are details of films registered by the Department of Trade under the Films Acts 1960 to 1970, as amended by the European Communities Act 1972, during the week ended Friday, 7 January 1977.

BR/E indicates that the film is a British quota film, EC that the film is a quota film. The date which forms part of the registration number of each is the date on which quota life of the film expires.

Title of film	Registered no.	Playing time minutes	Date of registration	Registered in the name of	Maker's name
			BRITISH		
Sweeney	BR/E 38926/9/1/82	97	6 January	EMI Film Distributors Ltd	Euston Films Ltd, London
Movietone News 2483	BR/E 38844/9/1/82	8	7 January	British Movietonews Ltd	British Movietonews Ltd
			FOREIGN		
Amateur Night	F/38925	8	6 January	British Lion Films Ltd	Mrs Thalma Goldman, London
The Tennis Lesson	F/38927	9	7 January	Columbia-Warner Distributors Ltd	Burbank Studios, California
The Front	F/38928	95	7 January	Columbia-Warner Distributors Ltd	TBC Productions II, Illinois
Two-Minute-Warning	F/38929	116	7 January	Cinema International Corporation (UK)	Universal Pictures, California

AMENDMENT TO THE REGISTER

The registration number of the film 'Exhibition', registered on 16 December 1976, has been amended to EC/38910/19/12/81.

Have you a good industrial news picture?

Pictures are published in *Trade and Industry* each week showing developments in British industry. If your company has introduced an interesting new product, if you have received an award, if you have developed a novel manufacturing process, if you have produced the biggest or smallest or heaviest or (you feel) the best designed product, you are welcome to send us a photograph with a short news story. Contributions should be sent promptly – while the subject is still newsworthy – to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 439, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

Index to statistics and organisational information published regularly in 'Trade and Industry'

A = annually M = monthly Q = quarterly 6M = every six months.

Title	Last published
Air transport: trade by air (A)	16 July 1976
Balance of payments:	
current account (M)	24 Dec. 1976
trends in invisible transactions	22 Oct. 1976
(*see also* Overseas trade of the UK)	
Business names and limited partnerships (A)	7 May 1976
Capital expenditure: manufacturing, distributive and service industries (Q)	7 Jan. 1977
By regions	19 Nov. 1976
Catering trades turnover (M)	This week
Census of production (A)	2 Apr. 1976
Chemicals industry activity (Q)	7 Jan. 1977
Companies:	
acquisitions and mergers (Q)	12 Nov. 1976
Liquidations *see* Insolvencies	
liquidity (Q)	10 Dec. 1976
new registrations:	
Gt. Britain (M)	24 Dec. 1976
N. Ireland (M)	7 Jan. 1977
rate of return on capital (A)	8 Oct. 1976
Construction work overseas (A)	15 Oct. 1976
EEC economic indicators	This week
Energy trends (M)	This week
Engineering industries: sales and orders (M)	24 Dec. 1976
Film industry	
British Film Fund Agency returns (M)	This week
cinema admissions and takings (M)	7 Jan. 1977
overseas payments and earnings (A)	20 Aug. 1976
registrations of films (A)	30 Jan. 1976
Food:	
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household consumption (Q)	7 Jan. 1977
Footwear industry: production, orders and deliveries (M)	24 Dec. 1976
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Foreign trade: industrial countries' production and trade (Q)	3 Dec. 1976
(*see also* Overseas trade of the UK)	
Hire-purchase business (M)	7 Jan. 1977
Industrial production:	
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N. Ireland index	21 Nov. 1975
Scotland	26 Nov. 1976
Wales	8 Oct. 1976
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Royalties: overseas transactions (A)	25 June 1976
Shipping: nationality of vessels in UK sea-borne trade (A)	9 July 1976
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manufacturers' and distributors' quarterly figures (Q)	7 Jan. 1977
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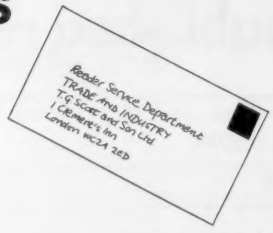

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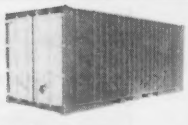

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